RYOUKO'S CASE-BOOK OF SPIRITS 3

CHIE SHINOHARA

篠原千絵

Chao Flowercomics

About this manga

♥ *Ryouko Midorikawa is a girl with spiritual powers in her second year of high school. The day when her beloved white cat Pow died, the spirit of a mysterious man took possession of its body. He is still alive, but somehow his soul and body were separated, so Ryouko searches for his body. With her help, he discovers his name was Taku Kusakabe, but they also discover the presence of a strong evil spirit, trying to kill both of them!*

The third volume of the super-popular suspense series!

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3

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An evil spirit of tremendous power is trying to kill the medium Ryouko and her white cat Pow. And where in the world is the real body of the spirit, possessing Pow?

The third volume of the super-popular series!

Chao Flowercomics

小学館

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Chae Flower Comics

RYOUKO'S CASE-BOOK OF SPIRITS 3

SHINOHARA CHIE

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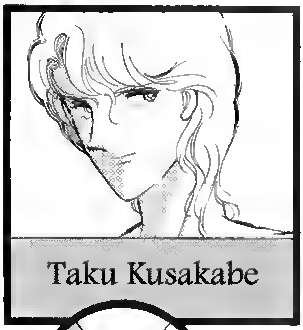
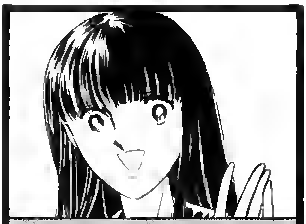


Taku Kusakabe

Pow

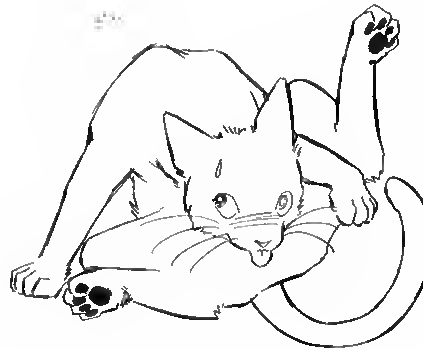


Ryouko Midorikawa

The story so far...

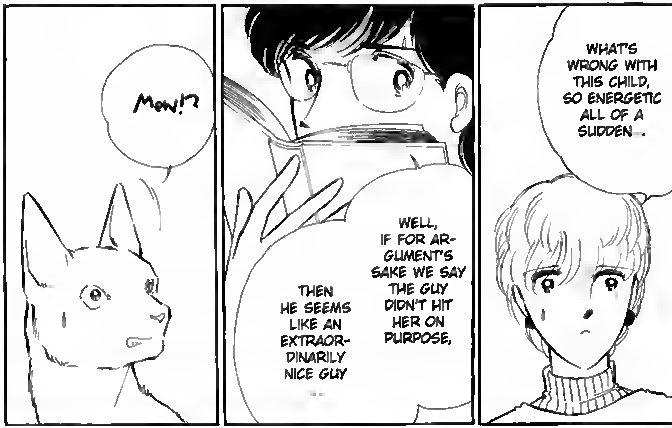
Ryouko Midorikawa is a girl with spiritual powers in her second year of high school. The day when her beloved white cat Pow died, the spirit of a mysterious man took possession of its body. He is still alive, but somehow his soul and body were separated, so Ryouko searches for his body. With her help, he discovers his name was Taku Kusakabe, but they also discover the presence of a strong evil spirit, trying to kill both of them!

The Heart Where Shadow Dwells



An acci-dent!?
CALM DOWN, IT WASN'T SUCH A BIG DEAL!
THIS MORNING, WHEN I WAS GOING AROUND A CORNER, ONE BIKE SURPRISED ME AND I FELL, THAT'S ALL.
THEN DON'T SCARE ME LIKE THAT, RYOUKO! YOU SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL!
YES, YES.
HERE, JUST A SCRATCH ON THE KNEE, IT'LL HEAL IN TWO DAYS.

BUT THE BIKER WAS REALLY VERY KIND AND SAW ME OFF ALL THE WAY TO THE GATES OF THE SCHOOL
Bounce
Bounce
AND WAS WAITING FOR ME AFTER SCHOOL AND GAVE ME A RIDE HOME ON THE BIKE!
OH, MY, WHAT A SCRUPULOUS PERSON! AND ABOUT WHAT AGE?
THE SAME AS MINE! AND THE NAME'S MORI!
YEAH, PROBABLY.
THE "MORI" AS IF IN "LARGE FOREST"?
AND SINCE TOMOR-ROW IS SUNDAY,
WE DECIDED TO GO TOGETHER SOMEWHERE, AS APOLOGY. SO
Swish
WELL, I'M GOING TO CHANGE NOW! ♡
.....
Bounce
Bounce


Mew!?
WELL, IF FOR ARGUMENT'S SAKE WE SAY THE GUY DIDN'T HIT HER ON PURPOSE,
THEN HE SEEMS LIKE AN EXTRAORDINARILY NICE GUY ...
WHAT'S WRONG WITH THIS CHILD, SO ENERGETIC ALL OF A SUDDEN...

Won't you finally start looking for my body?
Ryou-ko,
I know you have a life of your own, but..

The deal was that I would protect you in return for your help!
I wish some spirit would finally possess you and eat you!
twitch
twitch
DON'T YOU EVER GET TIRED?
SEE, YOU'VE ALREADY BEEN A CAT FOR MORE THAN A YEAR AND A HALF. YOU SHOULD BE USED TO IT ALREADY, SO HOLD ON A BIT MORE, OK?
YES, I REMEMBER ...
I DO.
Until then, I have no choice but to hide here in the shape of a cat
HIS REAL [redacted] IS TAKU KUSAKABE
I AM A MEDIUM AND SO HE WANTS ME TO HELP HIM LOOK FOR THE BODY FROM WHICH HIS SOUL WAS SEPARATED (ALTHOUGH HE'S STILL ALIVE)

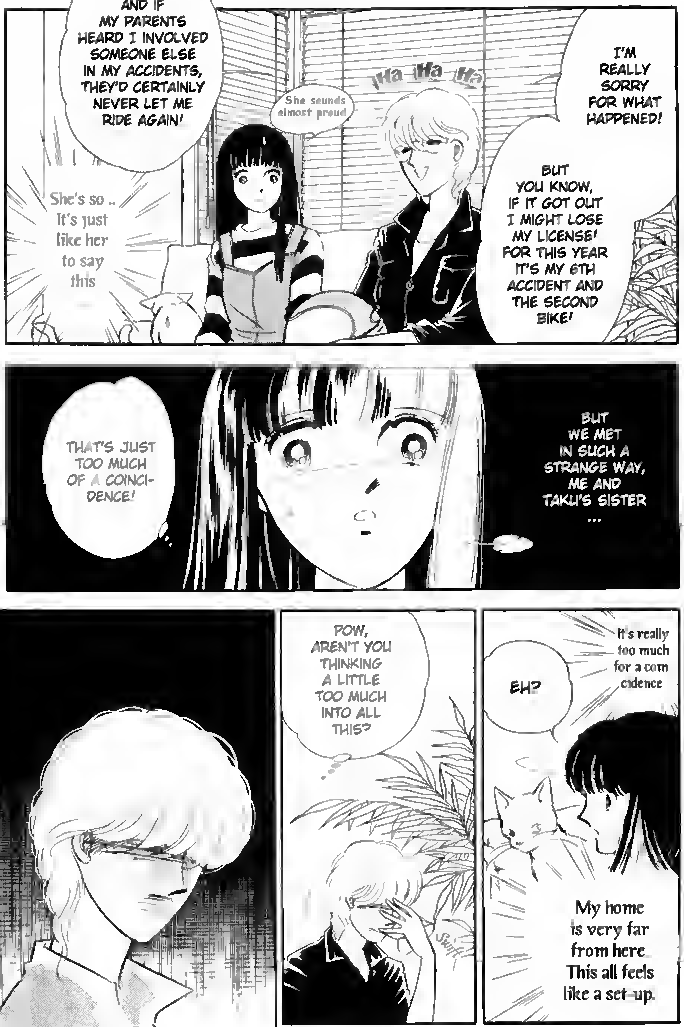
Ideal image
OF COURSE, I CAN'T DO THAT WHEN HE LOOKS LIKE A CAT!
THE TRUTH IS, I'D LOVE TO GO OUT ON A DATE WITH HIM
PERSONALLY, I WANT TAKU TO BE BACK TO HIS BODY, TOO
IT WAS A GIRL!
DIDN'T I MENTION IT?
EH?
!!
That guy with the bike is he hand some?
Eh but .. Ryou ko...
WERE YOU JEA-LOUS?
Don't even joke about it! I'm just worried because of your damn bad luck with men!
Grin

Chirp
Chirp
VROOM
VROOM
VROOOOOM
You know, you're strangely excited about going on a date with a WOMAN ...
SHE'S HERE!
SEE, POW, IT'S THE BIKE FROM YESTERDAY!
DOOM
I hope she doesn't develop THAT kind of preference...
Run
Run
I'M COMING! ♡
WOO-OOW!
BUT SHE'S SOOOO COOL!

I'M REALLY SORRY FOR YESTERDAY.
GOOD MORNING
AH, COME IN PLEASE! ♡
I'M REALLY ALRIGHT, SO DON'T WORRY ABOUT ANYTHING!
EH?
Her name's meaning is not "Large forest"
"Mori" means "Campanula*" in her case
WHAT IS IT, POW?

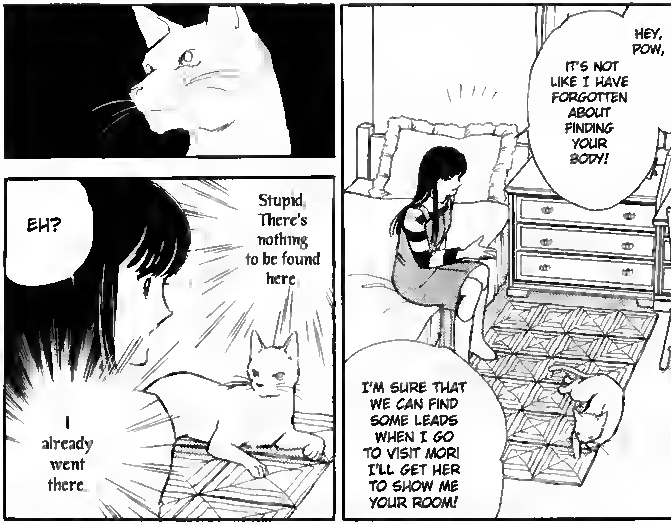
*NOTE CAMPANULA BETULAEFOLIA

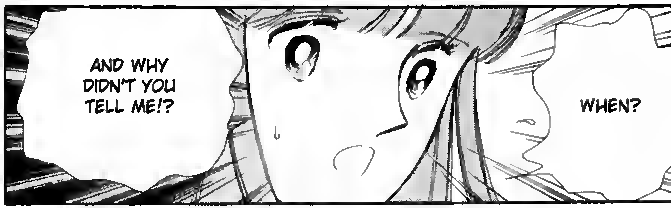
Mori..! She is my little sister!!
Sister!?
I'M MORI KUSA-KABE!
EXCUSE ME, DID I TELL YOU MY FULL NAME?


AND IF MY PARENTS HEARD I INVOLVED SOMEONE ELSE IN MY ACCIDENTS, THEY'D CERTAINLY NEVER LET ME RIDE AGAIN!
She sounds almost proud
Ha Ha Ha
I'M REALLY SORRY FOR WHAT HAPPENED!
She's so .. It's just like her to say this
BUT YOU KNOW, IF IT GOT OUT I MIGHT LOSE MY LICENSE! FOR THIS YEAR IT'S MY 6TH ACCIDENT AND THE SECOND BIKE!
THAT'S JUST TOO MUCH OF A COINCI-DENCE!
BUT WE MET IN SUCH A STRANGE WAY, ME AND TAKU'S SISTER ...
POW, AREN'T YOU THINKING A LITTLE TOO MUCH INTO ALL THIS?
EH?
It's really too much for a coin cidence
My home is very far from here. This all feels like a set-up.

GLANCE
EHM? JUST NOW, WHAT WAS I...
!?
I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT WANT SOME TEA?
Oh, thank youuu!

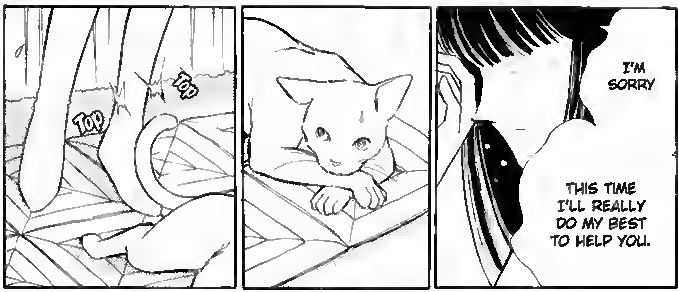
How could you forget so quickly that there is something that wants to kill us?
Oh, you're a really simple soul, aren't you?
SHE'S YOUR SISTER!
YOU'RE IMAGINING THINGS, POW!
MAYBE I CAN COME VISIT YOUR HOUSE NEXT TIME?
YES, PLEASE DO! HOW ABOUT NEXT WEEK-END?
DO YOU THINK WE CAN BECOME .. FRIENDS?
YES!! CERTAIN-LY! ♡
.....

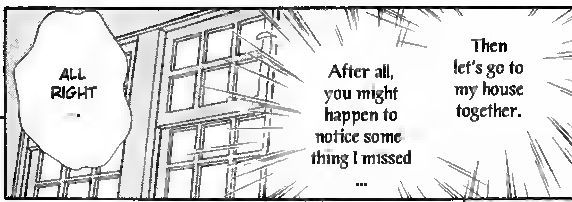

HEY, POW,
IT'S NOT LIKE I HAVE FORGOTTEN ABOUT FINDING YOUR BODY!
I'M SURE THAT WE CAN FIND SOME LEADS WHEN I GO TO VISIT MORI I'LL GET HER TO SHOW ME YOUR ROOM!
EH?
Stupid. There's nothing to be found here.
I already went there.


AND WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME!?
WHEN?

.....
I thought that since it was something I could do alone, there was no need to trouble you.
I went right after I learned my identity.

I KNOW IT'S HIS LIFE, BUT STILL
YES, IT'S NOT LIKE HE DEPENDS ON ME. HE CAN DO MUCH ON HIS OWN ...


TOP
TOP
I'M SORRY
THIS TIME I'LL REALLY DO MY BEST TO HELP YOU.

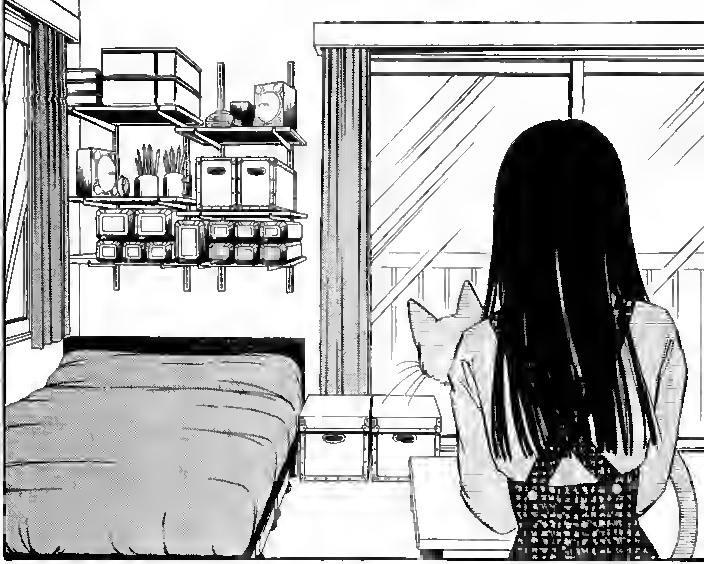

ALL RIGHT ...
After all, you might happen to notice some thing I missed ...
Then let's go to my house together.

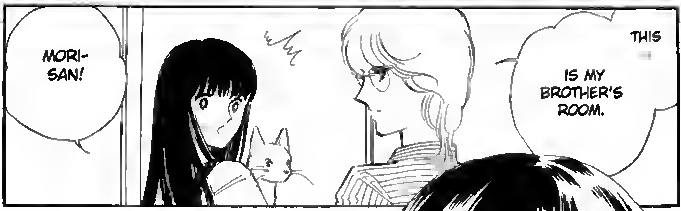
I'M TRYING..!
HOLD TIGHT OR YOU'LL FALL!
MORI-SAN! SORRY I TOOK MY CAT WITH ME!
BUT HE WOULDN'T LET GO OF ME TODAY...
Mew!
IT'S OK! WE ALL LOVE ANIMALS AT HOME.
AND I REALLY LIKE YOUR CAT!
POW SAID IT WAS VERY STRANGE TO MEET HIS SISTER THIS WAY, BUT I'M SURE HE'S WRONG.
SHE'S SUCH A NICE PERSON!
.....

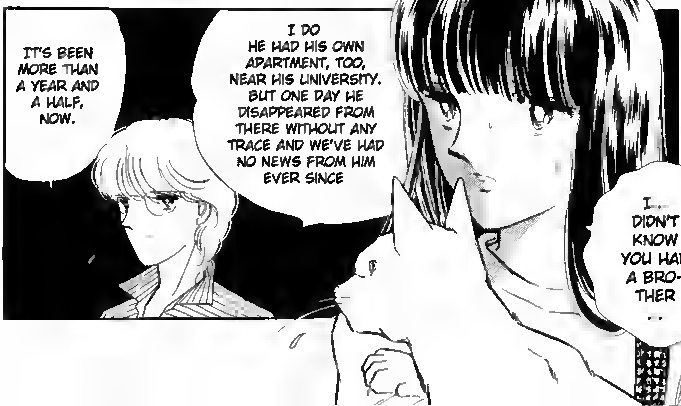
Kusakabe
WE'RE HERE
PLEASE, COME IN!

YOU WERE MIDORI-KAWA-SAN, RIGHT?
WE'RE SORRY FOR THE TROUBLE MORI CAUSED YOU.
WELCOME TO OUR HOME!
OH, SUCH A NICE CAT!
PLEASE, HAVE A SEAT.
NO, IT WAS REALLY NOTHING!
THIS IS THE HOUSE WHERE TAKU WAS BORN AND RAISED
AND THEY ARE TAKU'S PARENTS!

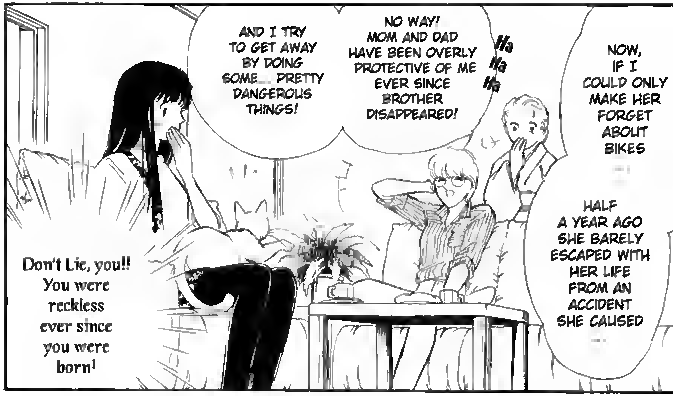
PLEASE, EXCUSE HIM! I'LL CATCH HIM QUICK-LY!
Pow!
Pow!
Ah!
Pow!
Come here!
Ryouko, this is my room!
EH?
I KNOW THIS IS YOUR HOUSE,
BUT TO THEM YOU'RE JUST THE CAT I BROUGHT OVER!
Pow, I said ...

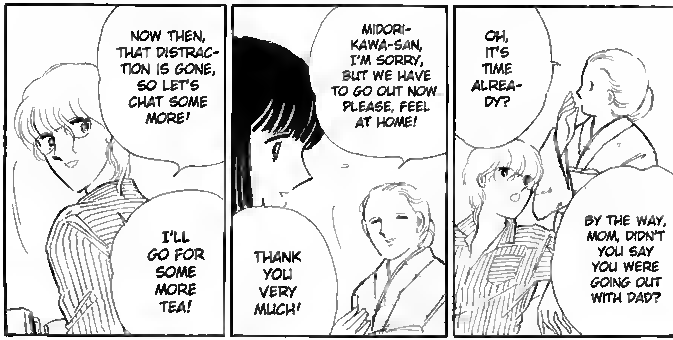



MORI-SAN!
THIS IS MY BROTHER'S ROOM.


IT'S BEEN MORE THAN A YEAR AND A HALF, NOW.
I DO HE HAD HIS OWN APARTMENT, TOO, NEAR HIS UNIVERSITY. BUT ONE DAY HE DISAPPEARED FROM THERE WITHOUT ANY TRACE AND WE'VE HAD NO NEWS FROM HIM EVER SINCE
I... DIDN'T KNOW YOU HAD A BRO-THER ..

SURE! AND THEN, I'LL MAKE SURE TO PUNCH HIM HARD, 2-3 TIMES, UNTIL HE'S SORRY FOR WHAT HE'S DONE!
WELL, LET'S GO BACK! POW, YOU TOO!
COLD SWEAT
I'M SURE . THAT YOUR BROTHER WILL RETURN HOME
AH, BUT THIS IS UNUSUAL, WE DON'T NORMALLY TELL STRANGERS ABOUT HIM
I SUPPOSE I'VE GROWN TO LIKE YOU MORE THAN I THOUGHT!
.....
EVEN THOUGH SHE SAYS SUCH THINGS ...
YOU KNOW, SHE DOESN'T EVEN CLEAN HER OWN ROOM, BUT... SHE CLEANS TAKU'S ROOM 2 OR 3 TIMES A WEEK.


Don't Lie, you!! You were reckless ever since you were born!
AND I TRY TO GET AWAY BY DOING SOME... PRETTY DANGEROUS THINGS!
NO WAY! MOM AND DAD HAVE BEEN OVERLY PROTECTIVE OF ME EVER SINCE BROTHER DISAPPEARED!
Ha Ha Ha
NOW, IF I COULD ONLY MAKE HER FORGET ABOUT BIKES
HALF A YEAR AGO SHE BARELY ESCAPED WITH HER LIFE FROM AN ACCIDENT SHE CAUSED


NOW THEN, THAT DISTRACTION IS GONE, SO LET'S CHAT SOME MORE!
I'LL GO FOR SOME MORE TEA!
MIDORIKAWA-SAN, I'M SORRY, BUT WE HAVE TO GO OUT NOW PLEASE, FEEL AT HOME!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
OH, IT'S TIME ALREADY?
BY THE WAY, MOM, DIDN'T YOU SAY YOU WERE GOING OUT WITH DAD?

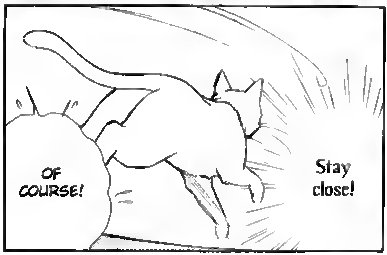
Told you so.
POW, YOU MAY BE RIGHT THERE PROBABLY AREN'T ANY CLUES LEFT HERE

!?
HM? WHAT ...
AND THIS TEAPOT IS TOO NOISY!
HOT, HOT, HOT!
TUUU
TUUU
TUUU
BLANK

!?
Clank
MORI?
MORI-SAN?
MORI-SAN!
MORI-SAN!
WHERE DID SHE GO?

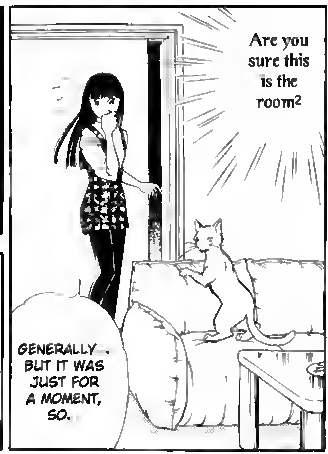
POW!?
Wait! Ryouko, don't move a muscle!
Watch out!
Something's wrong.
It won't be a surprised if "It" is trying to kill us by possessing my sister!
but something really IS after us.
You said I was thinking too much,
Possessing Mori-san!?

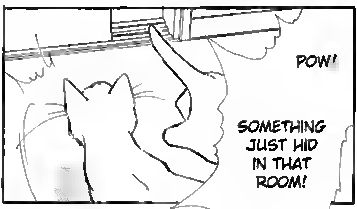
Swiish


OF COURSE!
Stay close!

Did you feel something?
YES! IT CAME FROM THERE!!

Hide


Are you sure this is the room?
GENERALLY . BUT IT WAS JUST FOR A MOMENT, SO.

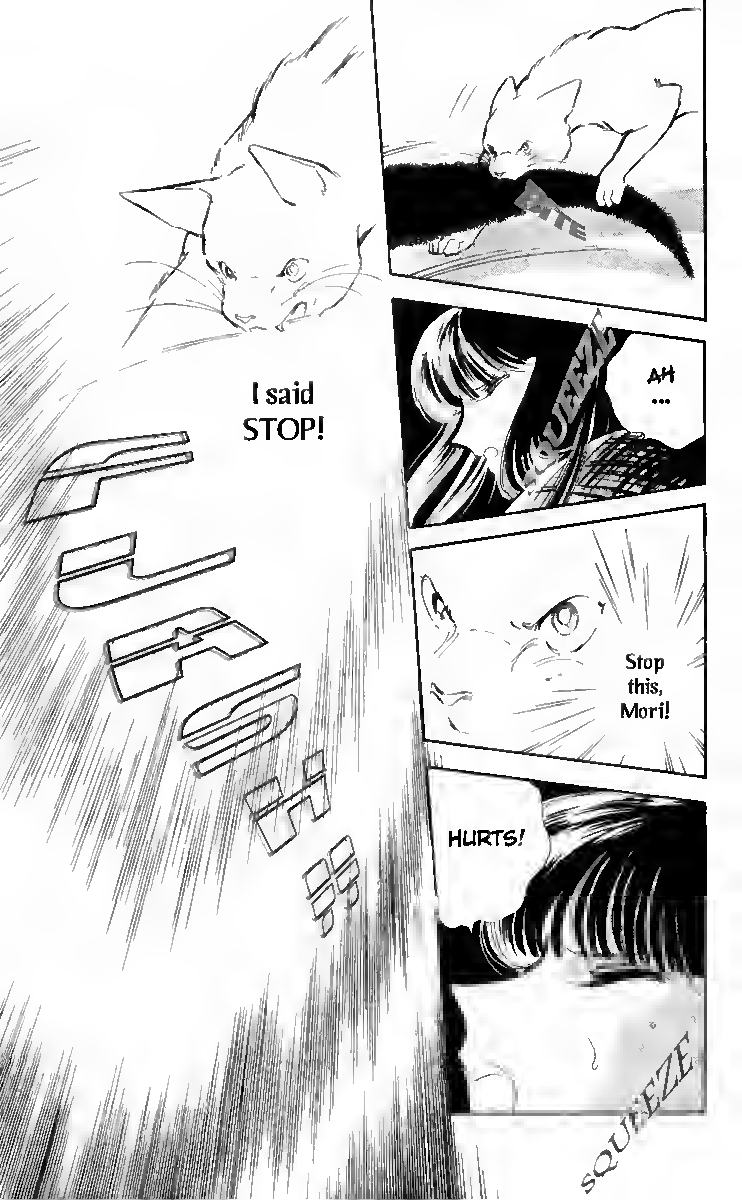

POW!
SOMETHING JUST HID IN THAT ROOM!

Slide
Here!?
Silence...
BUT, I'M SURE I SAW SOMETHING BLACK SNEAK IN HERE
AND MORI IS GONE, TOO ...

ヤッシ
ヤッシ
!!

Mori!!
Jump
Stop it, it hurts!
MORI-SAN!
It hurts! It's strangling me!
It's twining around me!
SNIFF
Leap!
WAAAAAAAHH!!

SQUEEN
A
SNAKE!?
SQUE
Lick


BITE
SQUEEZE
AH ...
I said STOP!
FLASH
Stop this, Mori!
HURTS!
SQUEEZE

push
push
Mori!
Hold on, Mori!
MORI-SAN!
OH ...
EH?
WHAT JUST HAPPENED TO ME?
I WAS PREPARING TEA IN THE KITCHEN AND ..

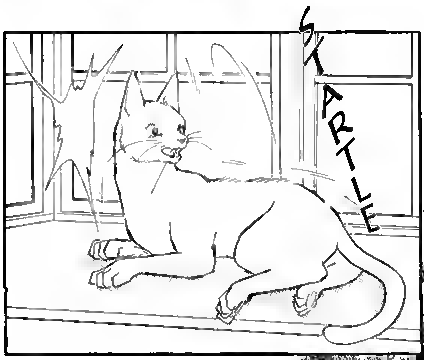
MORI-SAN IS POSSES-SED.
IT'S LIKE POW SAID.
?
AND ... WHAT HAPPE-NED?
It was still bearable when "It" used strangers, but now my sister got involved..!!
Damn it!
Ryouko! Find some way to ask Mori what she knows about snakes!
ERM... MORI-SAN, THIS IS A BIT SUDDEN, BUT... DID YOU HAVE ANY ACCIDENTS WITH SNAKES LATELY?
WHY ARE YOU ASKING ALL OF A SUD-DEN!?
ERM... WELL... WELL, JUST ANSWER ME, PLEASE!
IN FACT ... YES.

OH, GOD ...
I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THE SNAKE, BUT I ALMOST DIED THEN. I WAS IN HOSPITAL FOR ABOUT 2 MONTHS AFTERWARDS
ONE EVENING, ABOUT 6 MONTHS AGO, I WAS CLIMBING UP ONE MOUNTAIN ROAD WITH MY BIKE AND SUDDENLY A HUGE SNAKE APPEARED. I TRIED TO AVOID IT, BUT THE BIKE SLIPPED.
MEW
MEW
Then you reap what you sow! You should've just run over it, you stupid girl!
I wonder ... It won't go away so easily ...
IF WE DO, SHE SHOULD BE OUT OF DANGER!
THEN WE HAVE TO GET IT AWAY FROM MORI-SAN!
I'M NOT SURE WHY YOU ASK, BUT LET'S CONTINUE OVER SOME TEA!
Anyway, it seems the thing that's trying to kill us has planted this snake inside Mori's body.

If I were back to my real body, it'll be better for both of us
If only we knew WHAT that thing is and WHY it's after us!
But for the moment, do NOT let your guard down around Mori.
I WON'T ...

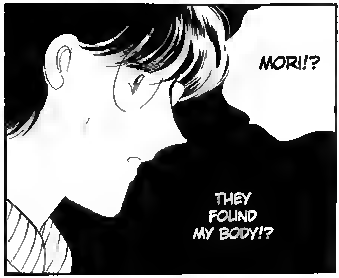
WE HAVE NO CHOICE NOW BUT TO FIND IT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE!
IF POW RETURNED TO HIS BODY, WE MIGHT GET SOME CLUES..
I'M SORRY, MAMI, BUT I HAVE TO GET HOME QUICKLY TODAY
WHAT IS IT, RYOUKO? YOU DON'T LOOK SO WELL. DID YOU EAT SOMETHING STRANGE?
SCREECH!
Wait, Ryouko-chan!
I'M SORRY, BUT I'M REALLY IN A HURRY TODAY!
Don't let your guard down around Mori!
MORI-SAN?
SO GLAD I FOUND YOU, RYOUKO!

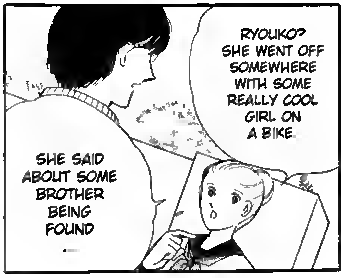
PLEASE, COME WITH ME! IT'S ABOUT BROTHER!
THERE WAS A CALL FROM THE POLICE! THEY SAID THEY HAVE FOUND HIM!
REA-LLY!?
Pow's body!?

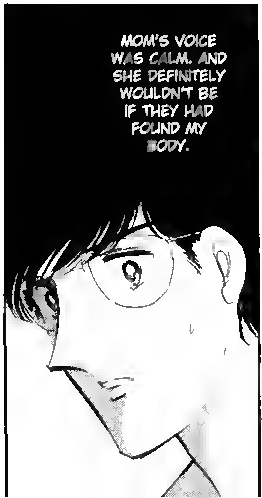

START LE

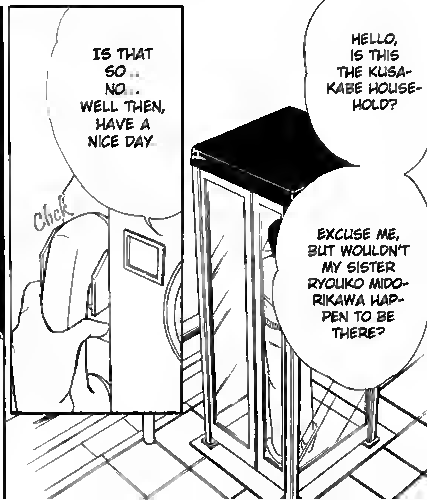
What? I have a very bad feeling...!
WHAT'S WITH YOU, POW? YOUR FUR'S UP!
Wah?
Caton
AND IT WAS HER TURN TO COOK
AND RYOUKO SURE IS LATE TODAY!
I Soo-oory.
BUMP
Swish

I WISH I AM ONLY IMAGINING THINGS, BUT .
SOMETHING MUST HAVE HAPPENED TO RYOUKO!


MORI!?
THEY FOUND MY BODY!?


RYOUKO? SHE WENT OFF SOMEWHERE WITH SOME REALLY COOL GIRL ON A BIKE.
SHE SAID ABOUT SOME BROTHER BEING FOUND


MOM'S VOICE WAS CALM. AND SHE DEFINITELY WOULDN'T BE IF THEY HAD FOUND MY BODY.


IS THAT SO.. NO.. WELL THEN, HAVE A NICE DAY
Click
HELLO, IS THIS THE KUSA-KABE HOUSE-HOLD?
EXCUSE ME, BUT WOULDN'T MY SISTER RYOUKO MIDO-RIKAWA HAP-PEN TO BE THERE?

A TRAP!!
Ryou-ko!
Mori!
MORI-SAN...
HEY, MORI-SAN!
VROOM
WHERE ARE WE GOING? THERE AREN'T ANY POLICE STATIONS HERE!
STRANGE
IT'S REALLY STRANGE...

Slide
Let me get off! Stop!!
Mori-san! You were lying about your brother!
YOU WON'T RUN AWAY THIS TIME!
Slide
KYAAAA!!

Land
ROOF!!
HISS
Stop the bike!
Stop!
A... ah!!

I THINK MORI-SAN IS HURT!
SHE LET GO OF THE BRAKES!
Pow!!
POW, WAIT UP!
Swish
Mori!
MIA
Ow!
CHOKE
Grin

Lick
Lick
Lick
POW!!
WAAH!!
WHITE
Gurgle
Ack
...
PULL

PUT
AH!
POW, AHEAD!!
A CLIFF!!

CRASH!!

BANG!!
BANG!!
BOOM

RUMBLE
EH?
WHERE ARE WE?
RYOUKO, YOU TOO?
Mo-ri!!
She nearly got us this time ...

I SEE
SO YOU'RE UPSET ABOUT YOUR MISSING BROTHER ...
AND YOUR PARENTS ARE LONELY, TOO..
RYOUKO, MAKE SURE TO GO VISIT THEM OFTEN, TOGETHER WITH POW.
YES, SURE!
AND I'M SURE YOU'LL FIND YOUR BROTHER VERY SOON!
THANK YOU.
RIGHT. I ABSOLUTELY MUST FIND POW'S BODY SOON! NOT ONLY FOR MORI, NOT EVEN ONLY FOR POW .
ABOVE ALL, I WANT TO SEE HIM SO MUCH!

WHAAT?!
I KIND OF USED ALL HIS SAVINGS TO BUY THEM
...
WELL, THE TRUTH IS, THOSE TWO BIKES I CRUSHED LATELY
...
EH?
BUT IF HE APPEARED TOO SOON, IT WOULD BE A PROBLEM
...
MEW!
Let me have her! I'll punch her so hard..!
Ryouko, find my damn body soon if it's the last thing you do!
MEW!
AH, POW, DON'T SCRATCH HER!

IT CAME TO MY HOUSE ON A HOT, RAINY AFTERNOON.
THE INTRUDER
APPEARED AS A THIN BLACK KITTEN WITH EYES LIKE JADE.

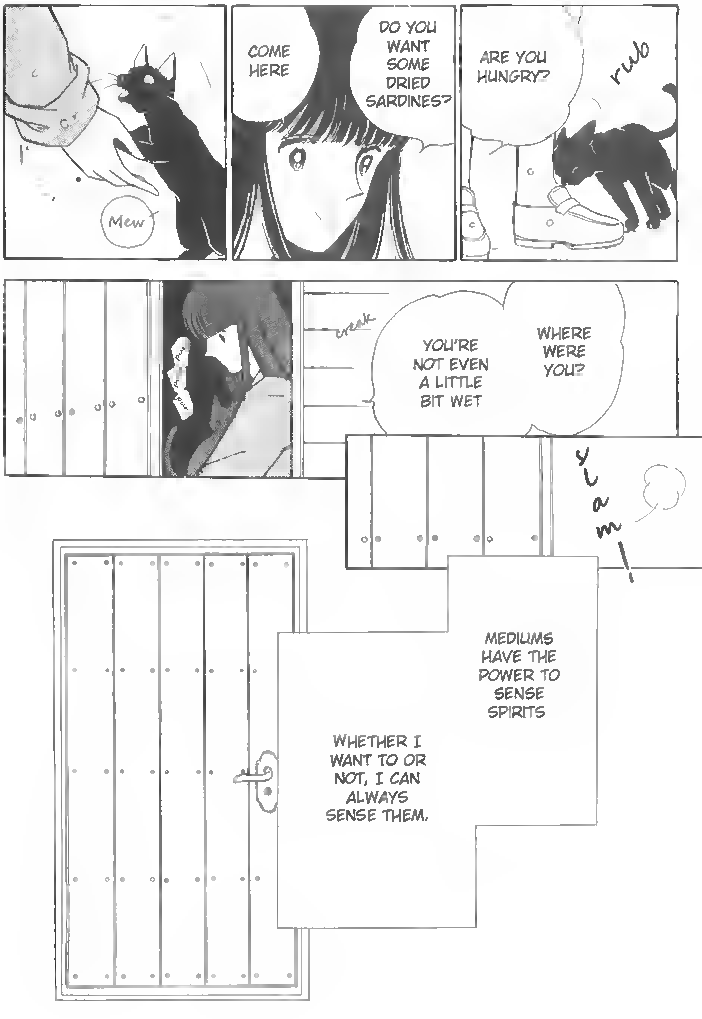
The Day the Cat Came Back

—PART 1—

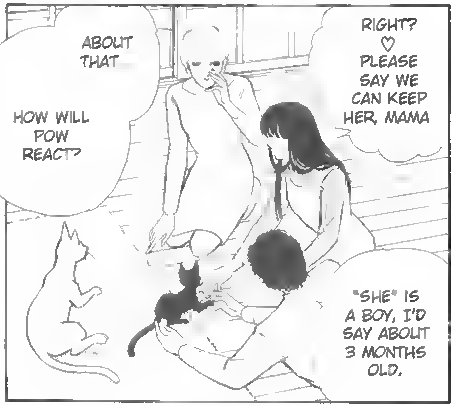
pitter
patter
pitter
patter
patter
pitter
pitter
NO WAY
NO WAY
NO WAY
NO WAY
I'M RYOUKO MIDORIKAWA.
EVEN THOUGH I LOOK LIKE A NORMAL GIRL, I'M A MEDIUM
I WISH THIS HUMIDITY WOULD GO DOWN..
I'M HOME—!! MAMA, TOWEL
shake shake shake

rustle
rustle
NOT FAIR, IT'S MAMA'S TURN TO MAKE DINNER TODAY...
HUH? IT LOOKS LIKE MAMA AND BROTHER AREN'T HOME YET.
rattle
jingle
step

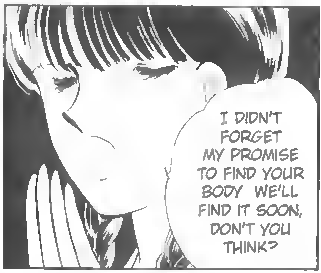
step
H UH?
WHERE DID YOU COME FROM?
Mew
WAS THIS LITTLE GUY HERE A SECOND AGO?


Mew
COME HERE
DO YOU WANT SOME DRIED SARDINES?
ARE YOU HUNGRY?
rub
crack
YOU'RE NOT EVEN A LITTLE BIT WET
WHERE WERE YOU?
slam!
MEDIUMS HAVE THE POWER TO SENSE SPIRITS
WHETHER I WANT TO OR NOT, I CAN ALWAYS SENSE THEM.

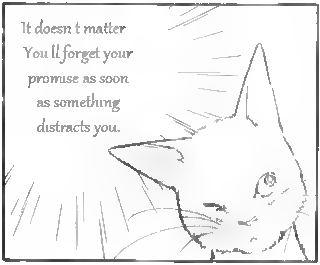
OR SO I THOUGHT.



Meow
purr purr purr purr
rub rub
purr purr
POW
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BULLY THE LITTLE ONE, RIGHT?
THE ITALIAN WORD FOR BLACK!!
YOUR NAME IS NERO,
IT'S DECIDED! AREN'T YOU GLAD, LITTLE ONE?
Adopt as many cats as you like, Ryouko, I don't even care It's just...
Kya Kya So cute


I DIDN'T FORGET MY PROMISE TO FIND YOUR BODY. WE'LL FIND IT SOON, DON'T YOU THINK?

STOP!
I KNOW, POW, I KNOW.


It doesn't matter. You'll forget your promise as soon as something distracts you.

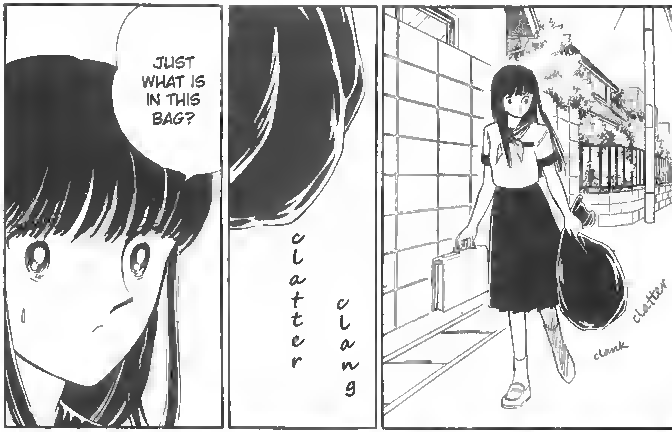
Even though you're a guy, you're so selfish.
THAT'S RIGHT. POW HAS A PROPER HUMAN BODY SOMEWHERE
HIS REAL NAME IS TAKU KUSAKABE

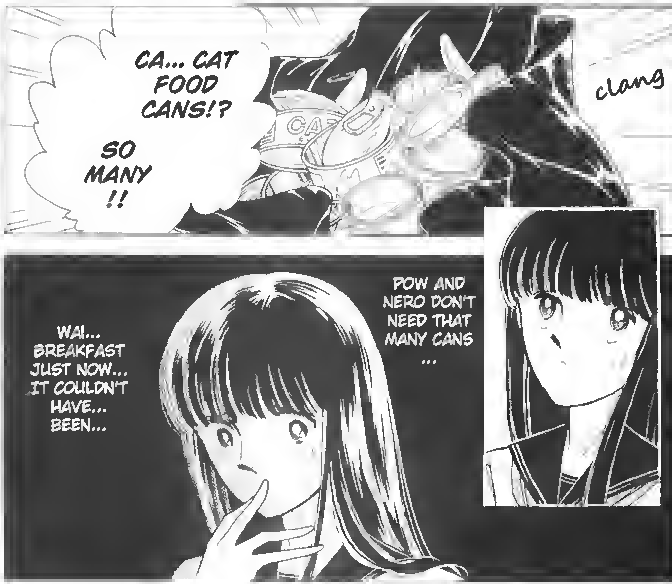
There's a scar on my back, but I don't know how I got it...
APPARENTLY HIS BODY AND SOUL WERE SEPERATED BY A STRONG SPIRITUAL FORCE.
SINCE I CAN SENSE SPIRITS, HE ASKED ME TO HELP HIM FIND HIS BODY.
I WANT TO FIND HIS BODY AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
I WANT TO HEAR THE SOUND OF HIS REAL VOICE
I WANT TO TOUCH HIS HAIR
I WANT TO MEET THE REAL TAKU.

Cat or human
this guy's personality is hopeless.
Ryusuke, when my body is safely returned I look forward to our kiss. Good luck!!
ANYWAY—
I'LL FIND YOUR BODY
TOMORROW AFTER SCHOOL, I'LL TRY YOUR PARENTS' HOUSE AGAIN
RUN AWAY
OH, NERO. COME HERE. YOU CAN SLEEP WITH ME.

?
chomp
WELL, BON APPETIT.
GOOD MORNING BREAKFAST IS READY. EAT QUICKLY OR YOU'LL BE LATE FOR SCHOOL.
'MORNING, MAMA
'KAY.

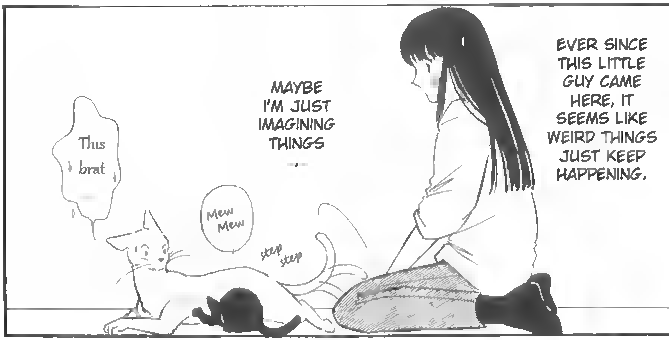
Is something wrong?
munch munch
UH-HUH
chew chew
.....
IF YOU'RE NOT HUNGRY, JUST LEAVE IT THERE
I'M VERY BUSY THIS MORNING, DON'T BOTHER ME
MAMA
WHAT IS THIS?
RYOUKO, I'D LIKE YOU TO TAKE OUT THE TRASH WHEN YOU LEAVE.
YES, MAMA.
IT... TASTES STRANGE
Gulp
IT'S NOT THAT I'M NOT HUNGRY, BUT...
munch munch munch
.....

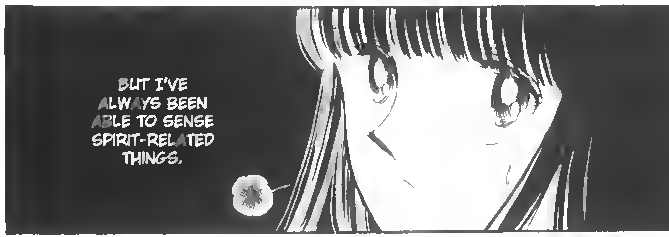

JUST WHAT IS IN THIS BAG?
clatter
clang
clank
clatter

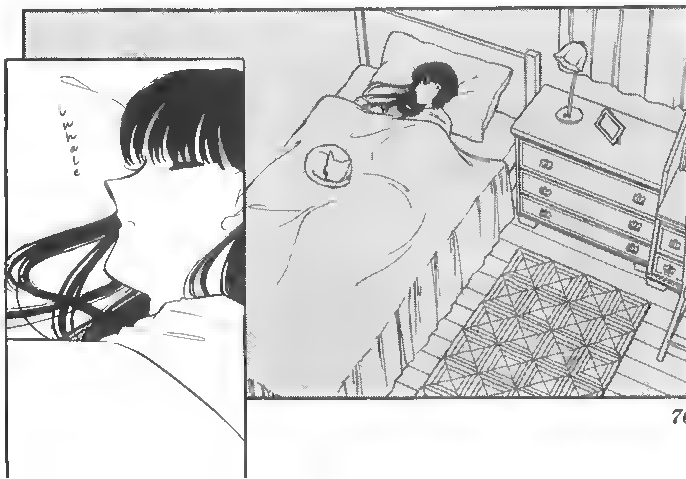

CA... CAT FOOD CANS!?
SO MANY !!
clang
WAI... BREAKFAST JUST NOW... IT COULDN'T HAVE... BEEN...
POW AND NERO DON'T NEED THAT MANY CANS ...

My little sister!?
I WENT TO YOUR HOUSE THIS AFTERNOON AND TALKED TO MORI ABOUT THE DAY YOU DISAPPEARED.
THE NIGHT YOU DISAPPEARED FROM YOUR APARTMENT,
BUT AS EXPECTED, I DIDN'T DISCOVER ANYTHING NEW.
NOTHING WAS OUT OF PLACE, AND YOUR DOOR WAS UNLOCKED.
ARE YOU SURE YOU DON'T SLEEP-WALK OR SOMETHING?
IT SEEMS LIKE YOU WERE THE ONLY ONE IN THE APARTMENT AT THE TIME

BRO-
THER!
Y... YOU
SURPRISED
ME
THE DOOR
WAS OPEN,
I JUST CAME TO
BORROW YOUR
DICTIONARY.
That day,
I must have
been lured
out by
something
Like
hell
I do
!!
WHAT ARE
YOU TALKING
ABOUT ALL
BY YOURSELF,
RYOUKO?
SURPRISE
BUT
JUST
WHAT
I'LL GIVE
IT BACK
TOMORROW.
HIS
WALKING...
BROTHER
NEVER
WALKED
LIKE THAT
BEFORE.
HIS
STEPS
WERE
SILENT
...
Meow
What
is it?
Did you
notice some-
thing?

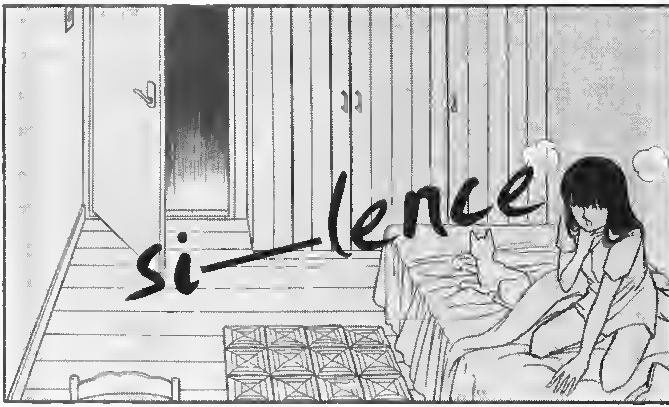

EVER SINCE THIS LITTLE GUY CAME HERE, IT SEEMS LIKE WEIRD THINGS JUST KEEP HAPPENING.
MAYBE I'M JUST IMAGINING THINGS
Thus brat
Mew Mew
scup scup

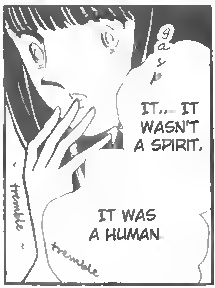

BUT I'VE ALWAYS BEEN ABLE TO SENSE SPIRIT-RELATED THINGS.


uuuu

SNARL
UGH

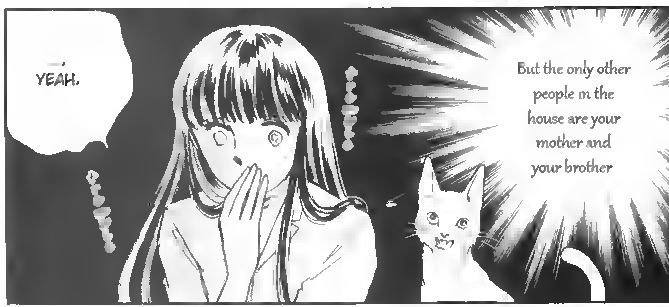
!?
GR···R
Stop it!!
Impact


si—lence

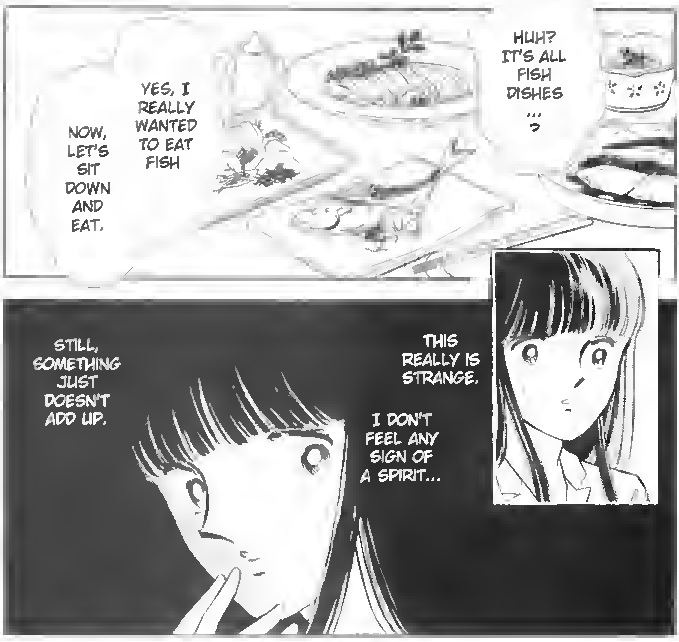

IT... IT WASN'T A SPIRIT.
IT WAS A HUMAN
tremble
tremble

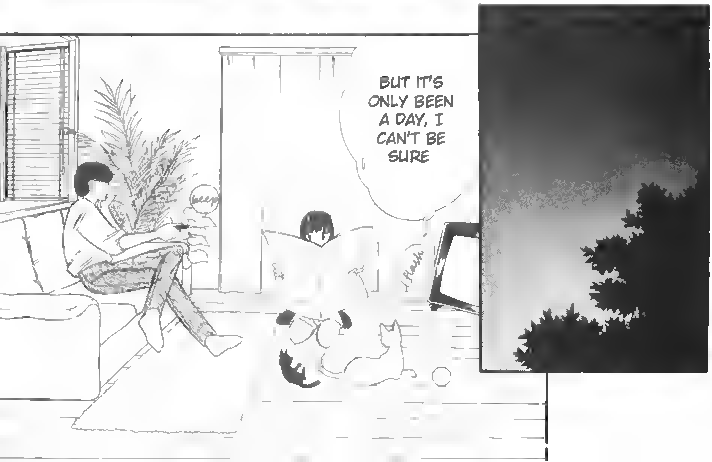
Ryouko, on your neck... those are human finger marks.

creak
creak


YEAH.
But the only other people in the house are your mother and your brother

THEN, WERE THEY THE ONES WHO ...?
OH, RYOUKO, GOOD MORNING.
IT'S RARE TO SEE YOU UP SO EARLY ON A SUNDAY.
Y... YOU'RE UP PRETTY EARLY TOO, MAMA.
IT SEEMS LIKE THEY DON'T KNOW ABOUT... LAST NIGHT.
....


NOW, LET'S SIT DOWN AND EAT.
YES, I REALLY WANTED TO EAT FISH
HUH? IT'S ALL FISH DISHES ... ?
STILL, SOMETHING JUST DOESN'T ADD UP.
THIS REALLY IS STRANGE.
I DON'T FEEL ANY SIGN OF A SPIRIT...

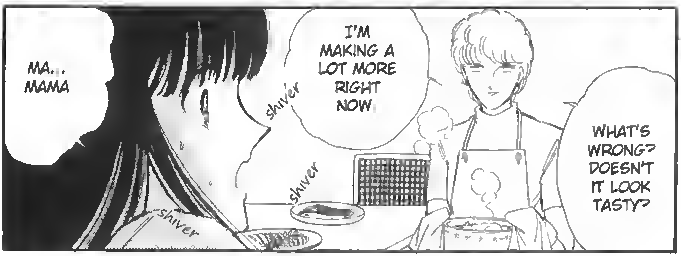

BUT IT'S ONLY BEEN A DAY, I CAN'T BE SURE

However,
if it's a powerful spirit, it could block your sense
Go play by yourself
BUT
I CAN'T SENSE ANYTHING FROM HIM.
Ryouko, if Nero is making you uneasy, you can drive him out of the house
R
R
R
YOU THINK THAT LITTLE GUY IS? THAT CAN'T BE.
YES, MIDORI-KAWA HERE
AH, MORI! WHAT'S UP? DIDN'T WE JUST SEE EACH OTHER YESTERDAY?
RYOUKO, I JUST FOUND A PET FOOD DISH IT'S YOURS, RIGHT?
WHAT WERE YOU DOING YESTERDAY! FORGETTING YOUR OWN THING HERE.
AHH!! I'M SORRY, I'LL PICK IT UP TOMORROW.

MORI? HELLO, ARE YOU STILL THERE?
AH, SORRY, BUT I JUST REMEMBERED .
DIDN'T I TELL YOU? IT'S A BLACK KITTEN ...
DID YOU GET ANOTHER PET BESIDES POW?
.....
ABOUT 2 OR 3 DAYS BEFORE MY BROTHER DISAPPEARED, WE TALKED ON THE PHONE
IT SEEMED HE'D PICKED UP A BLACK KITTEN.

HE SAID HE DIDN'T KNOW HOW HE WAS GOING TO RAISE IT, BECAUSE HIS APARTMENT DIDN'T ALLOW PETS...
COULD IT HAVE POSSIBLY BEEN... A COINCIDENCE?
RYOUKO, ARE YOU EVEN LISTENING!?
A SMALL BLACK CAT IN TAKU'S APARTMENT, JUST BEFORE HE VANISHED ...?
RYOUKO!!
SORRY, MORI, I HAVE TO HANG UP.
slam
MAMA!! WHERE'S NERO!?
OH, RYOUKO, I'VE JUST MADE DINNER.
HELP ME SET THE TABLE.
MAMA !?
turn
IT'S DINNER TIME
grab
MORE IMPORTANTLY, NERO...

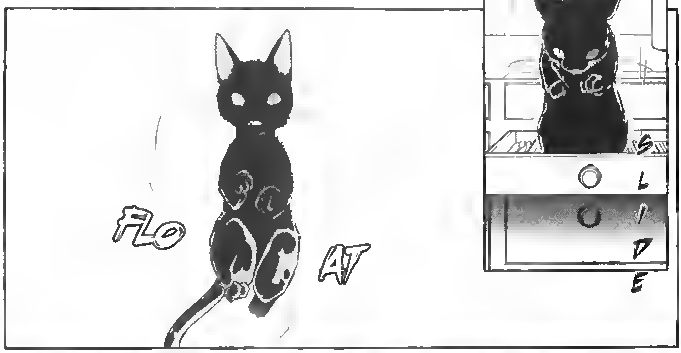
THE TWO OF THEM ...!
THEY'RE ACTING STRANGE !!
B... BROTHER.
WELL THEN, DON'T HOLD BACK, PLEASE
Clift
KYAA

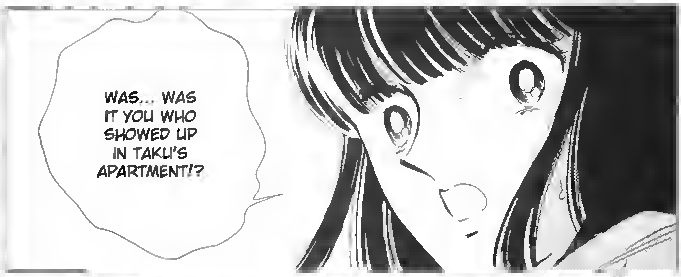

MA... MAMA
shiver
shiver
shiver
I'M MAKING A LOT MORE RIGHT NOW.
WHAT'S WRONG? DOESN'T IT LOOK TASTY?

WAIT, RYOUKO.
Dammit, where did that brat go!?
SO... SO IT REALLY IS NERO ...!?

HUH ?
GROWL
THIS ONE, TOO !?
IT... IT WON'T OPEN!
pull
H... HOLD ON, POW, I'LL GET THE SCISSORS.
BROTHER
FREEZE

smirk
KYAAAA-!!


FLO
AT
SLIDE


WAS... WAS IT YOU WHO SHOWED UP IN TAKU'S APARTMENT!?

kukukuku
kukukuku
WAS IT YOU WHO LURED TAKU OUT!?

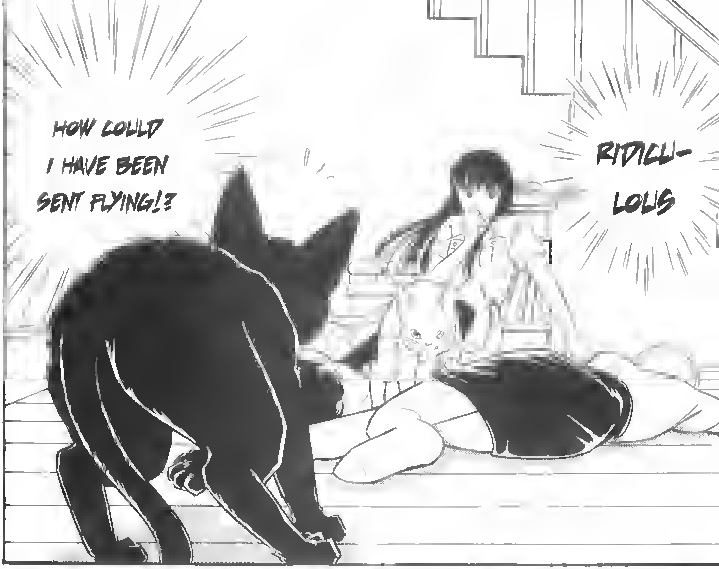
You bastard.
SNARL!
SWIPE
thud!
GIVE IT UP, ALREADY.
YOU DON'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST ME.

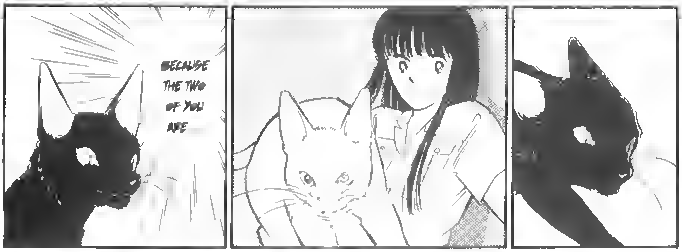
THIS TIME I WILL HAVE YOU BOTH.
I FAILED THE LAST TIME, BUT
TAKU KUSA-KABE
MOVE!!!
MAMA!
BROTHER
They're being manipulated!!

BROTHER
MAMA
STOP IT!!
You bastard, where is my body!?
DIE. BOTH OF YOU.
WHY ARE YOU AFTER US!?
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO GO THIS FAR!?
STOP IT, MAMA

DIE
STOP IT!!
Cut it out!!

impact!!
SNARL


HOW COULD I HAVE BEEN SENT FLYING!?
RIDICU-LOUS


BECAUSE THE TWO OF YOU ARE

BUT WHAT IF YOU WERE ALONE?
IT WAS BECAUSE THE TWO OF YOU ARE TOGETHER.
I GET IT

What !?
WHAT DID YOU SAY!?
I'M GOING TO SHRED TAKU'S BODY INTO PIECES.
float
THEN LET'S SEE IF HE CAN STAY WITH YOU.
HE VAN-ISHED!
FADE
BANG!
I... I DON'T KNOW. I'LL TRY.
Ryouko, can you sense it!?

SLOW DOWN, WE'LL GET SEPERATED.
TH... THAT WAY
BUT NERO IS GOING TO DESTROY YOUR BODY
Calm down, Ryouko, it's alright
WE CAN'T FOLLOW IT
I CAN'T SENSE IT ANY-MORE..!
Ryouko!

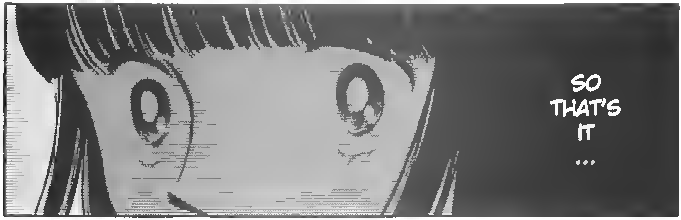
I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO!
IF I CAN'T FIND HIM,
YOUR BODY WILL BE LOST.
leaves body!!
twist
gentle
Calm down, Ryouko

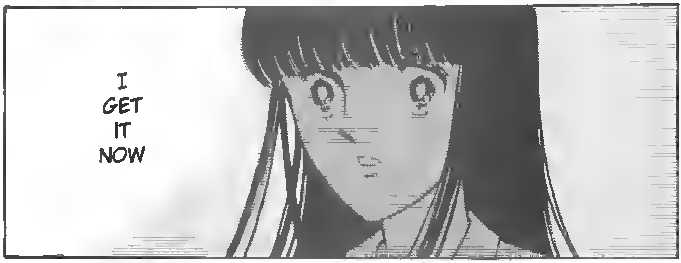
Feeling calmer?
MY BODY IS HOT
BUT MY MIND IS MYSTERIOUSLY CLEAR
ba-thump
If you can, try to sense Nero again.
It's alright, I'm going to borrow your brother's body and take the car
ba-thump
WHAT ... !?
WE'VE KISSED BEFORE WHEN HE WAS IN POW'S BODY, BUT
... THIS FEELING .. THIS IS THE FIRST TIME ..
ba-thump
ba-thump
Move
Okay ?

SOME-
THING
...
I CAN
FEEL
...
SOME-
THING.

ピンポンパンポン

FLYING
OVER
...
THERE
...


SO
THAT'S
IT
...


I
GET
IT
NOW

THAT'S
WHERE
TAKU
IS

THAT'S THE PLACE WHERE TAKU'S BODY IS!!

The Day the Cat Came Back

—PART2—

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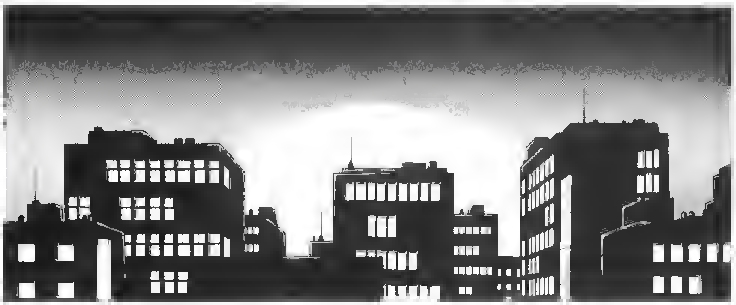

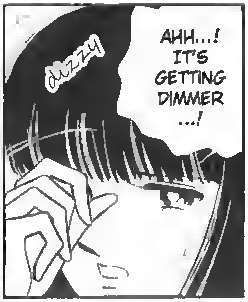

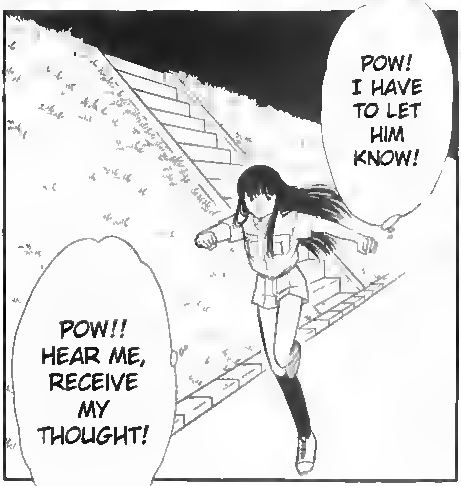

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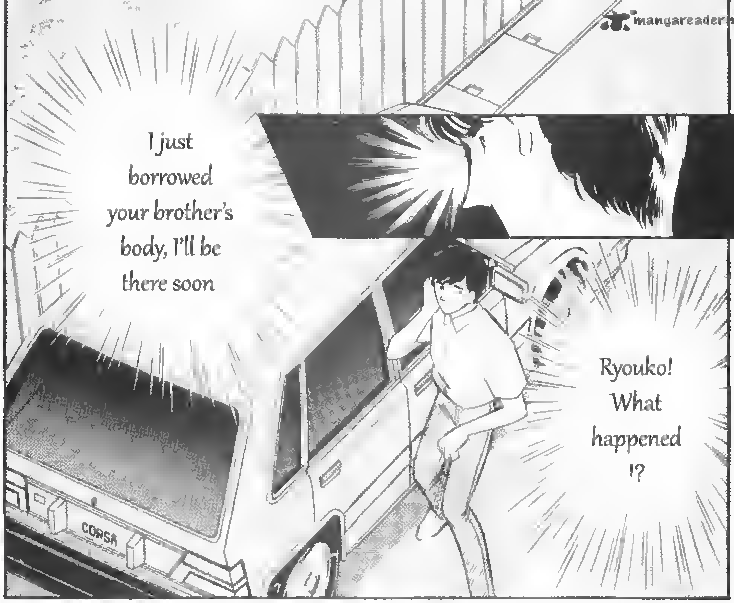

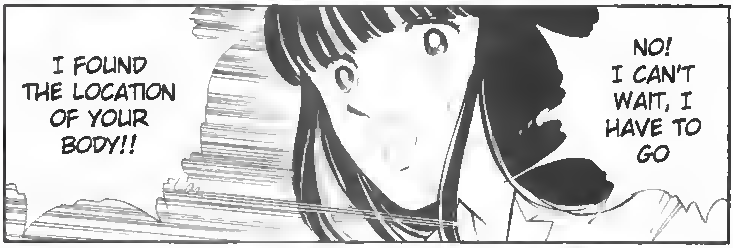

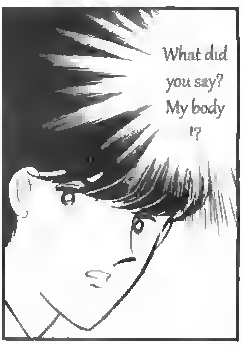

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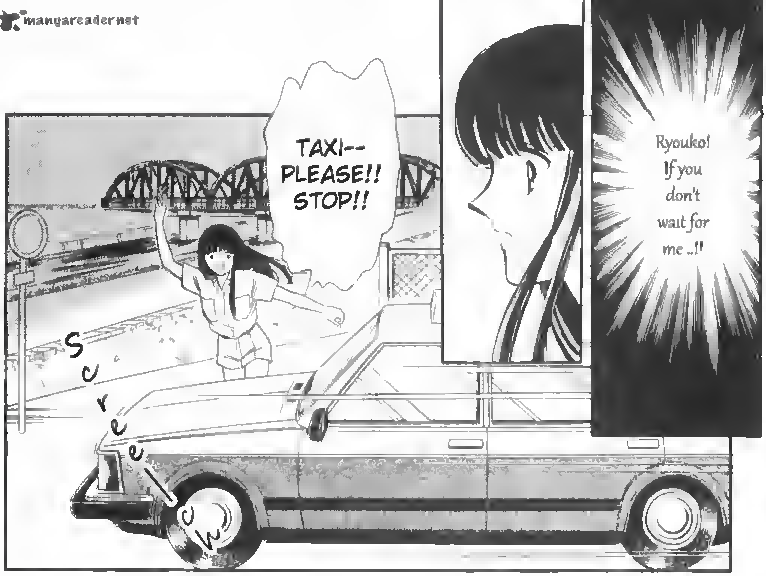

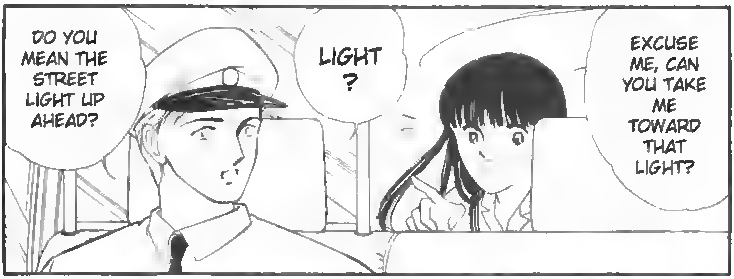

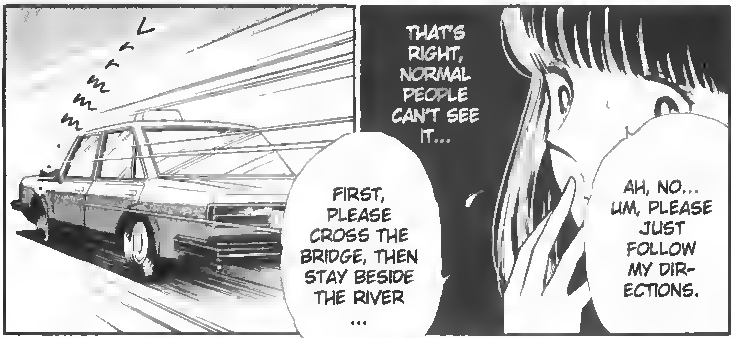
AH, NO... UM, PLEASE JUST FOLLOW MY DIR-ECTIONS.
THAT'S RIGHT, NORMAL PEOPLE CAN'T SEE IT...
FIRST, PLEASE CROSS THE BRIDGE, THEN STAY BESIDE THE RIVER ...
Vaaa

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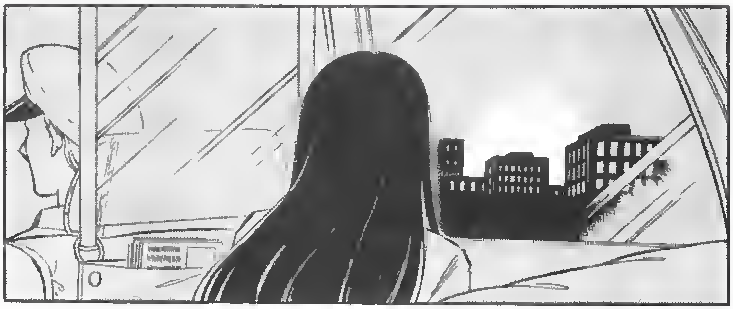
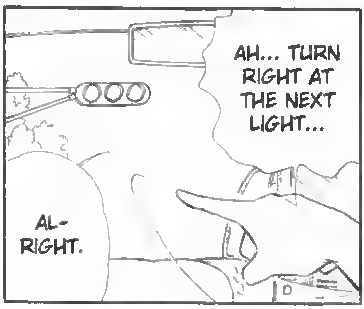
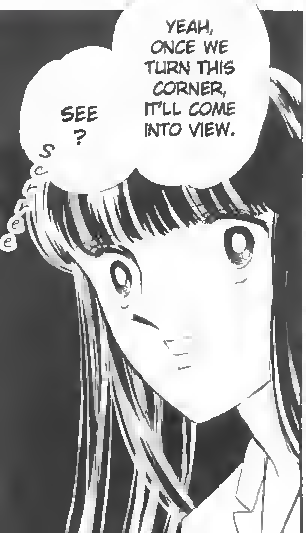




MISS, WHERE DO YOU INTEND TO GO AT THIS TIME OF NIGHT?
THERE'S NOTHING OUT THAT WAY RIGHT NOW.
HUH ?
THE ONLY THING UP AHEAD IS AN AMUSE-MENT PARK.
AN AMUSE-MENT PARK !?



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THE AMUSEMENT PARK ...!
SO THE LIGHT IS COMING FROM THERE!!
EXCUSE ME! PLEASE LET ME OFF IN FRONT OF THE GATE!
BUT... BUT THE PARK IS ALREADY CLOSED...!
PLEASE DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT, JUST LEAVE ME THERE!
IT VANISHED !!
poof

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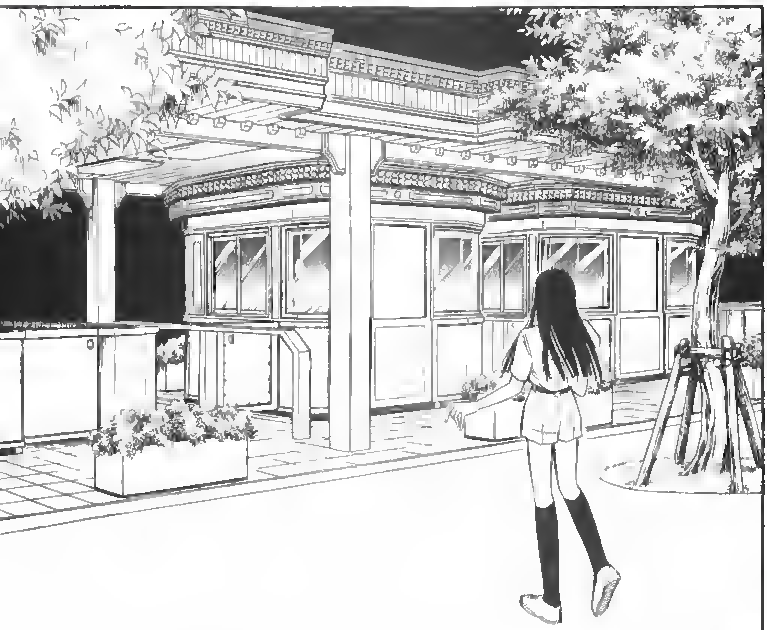

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RIGHT NOW, I'M AT THE ENTRANCE OF "SOUTHERN AMUSEMENT PARK".
POW, CAN YOU HEAR ME !? POW!!
My body is over there!?
I've locked onto your wavelength.
I can't find her wave-length.
Why did Ryouko's thoughts disappear?
--Ryouko !? Answer me
Got that, Ryouko ?
pull!
YES, I THINK SO.
OK, I'm coming. This time, I'll do something Don't move

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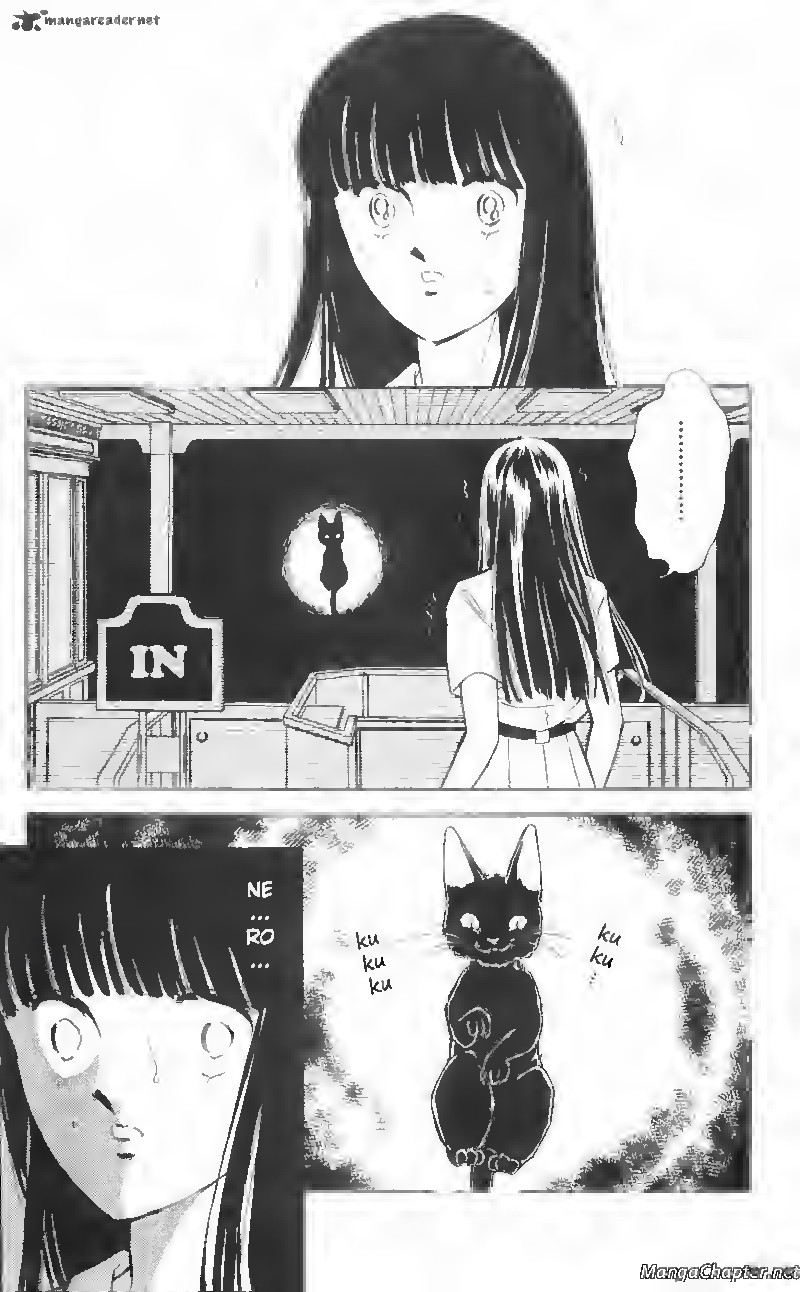

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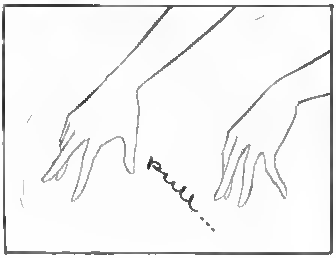

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POW!
RYOUKO !!
BUT DO YOU REMEMBER ANYTHING!? YOU WERE LED HERE LIKE THIS, TOO.
BU... BUT I WAS BEING DRAWN TO IT SOME-HOW.
THAT'S WHY I TOLD YOU NOT TO GO BY YOURSELF.
YES! YOU DON'T REMEMBER? MAYBE YOUR BODY IS SOMEWHERE IN THIS PLACE.
I WAS... LED TO THIS PARK?

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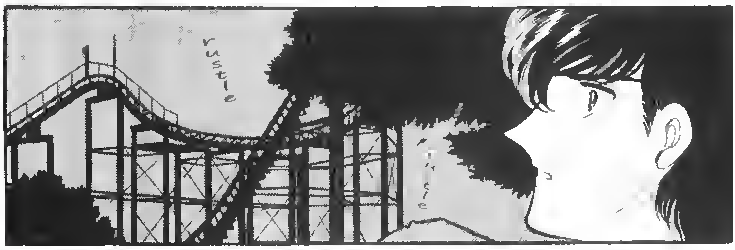

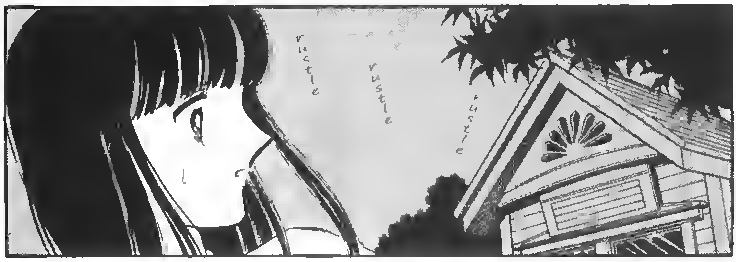

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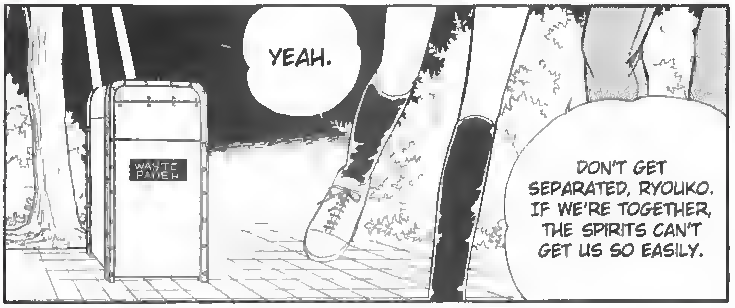
I DON'T HAVE ANY RECOLLECTION OF COMING HERE, BUT
I DO GET THE FEELING THAT WE'RE SURROUNDED BY SPIRITS.
Y-YEAH. THIS PARK HAS A TREMENDOUSLY INTENSE SPIRITUAL AURA.



I DON'T THINK YOUR BODY WOULD BE HIDDEN IN AN OPEN PLACE LIKE A ROLLER COASTER.
OF COURSE, THAT MAKES SENSE FOR EVERYTHING AROUND HERE, BUT YOU WERE LED TO THE MIRROR HOUSE, SO AN INDOOR PLACE WOULD BE A GOOD BET.

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IN-DOORS ...
WHAT ARE THE OTHER BUILDINGS ?
HEY, RYOUKO.
HOW DID YOU SUDDENLY KNOW ABOUT THIS PLACE?
THERE'S NO WAY YOUR SPIRITUAL ABILITY POWERED UP JUST LIKE THAT.
ABOUT THAT ...
I DON'T UNDERSTAND IT EITHER. . BUT RIGHT AFTER YOUR SPIRIT KISSED ME,
I COULD SEE THE LIGHT GLOWING
KISS...? THAT'S IT!
WHAT ?
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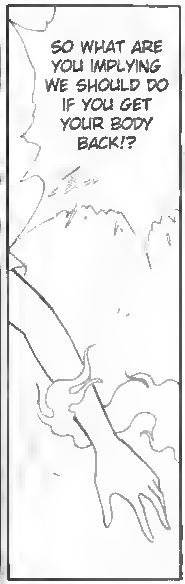
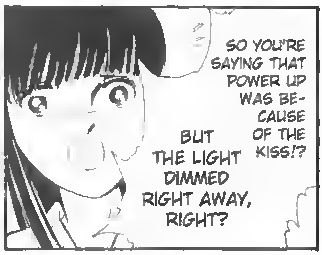
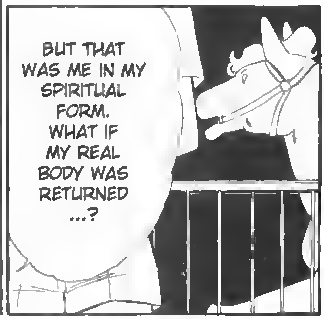
SO THE DEEPER OUR BOND, THE BETTER OUR SPIRITUAL ABILITIES BECOME.
THE TWO OF US TOGETHER HAVE THE POWER TO BANISH THOSE SPIRITS,
YOU STILL DON'T GET IT? YOUR DAD SAID IT A WHILE AGO!







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ALRIGHT! IT DOESN'T WANT TO SHOW US THAT PLACE, SO LET'S GO THERE FIRST!
THE AURA IS HORR-ENDOUS THERE!
AH !!
!!
GO AWAY !
... KUH
IT DOESN'T MATTER IF I WANTED YOU TO GO IN OR NOT. JUST GO IN.
WE'LL SETTLE THINGS THERE ONCE AND FOR ALL.

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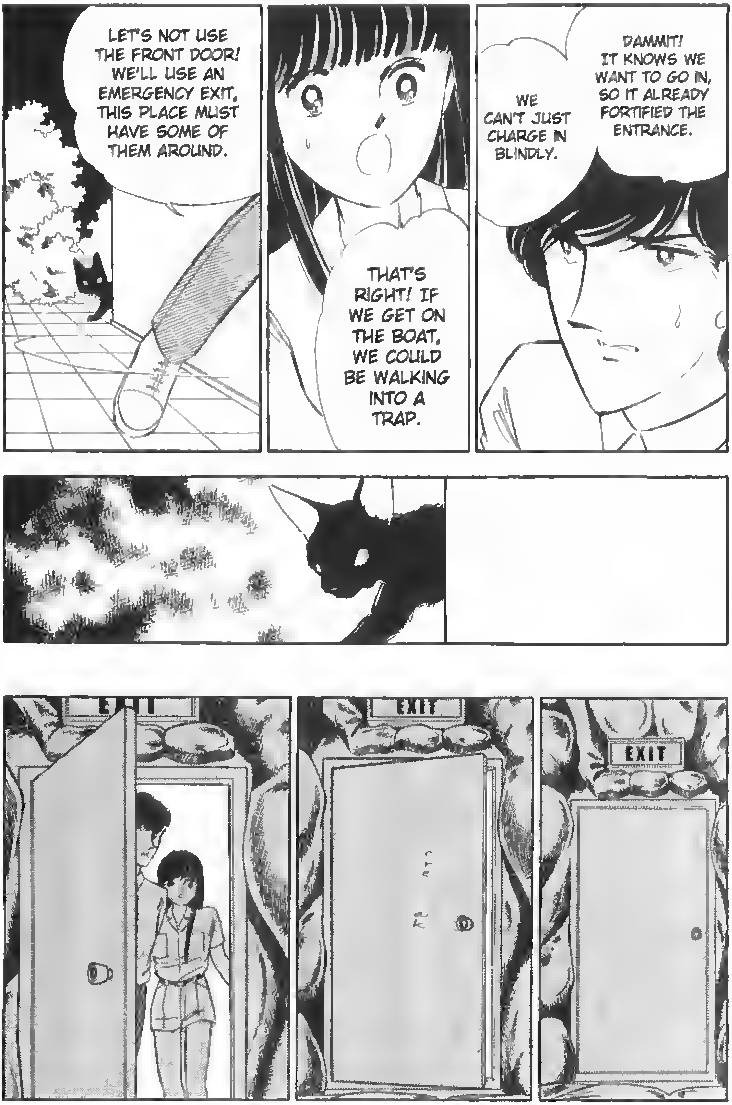
LET'S NOT USE THE FRONT DOOR! WE'LL USE AN EMERGENCY EXIT, THIS PLACE MUST HAVE SOME OF THEM AROUND.
THAT'S RIGHT! IF WE GET ON THE BOAT, WE COULD BE WALKING INTO A TRAP.
WE CAN'T JUST CHARGE IN BLINDLY.
DAMMIT! IT KNOWS WE WANT TO GO IN, SO IT ALREADY FORTIFIED THE ENTRANCE.
EXIT
EXIT
EXIT

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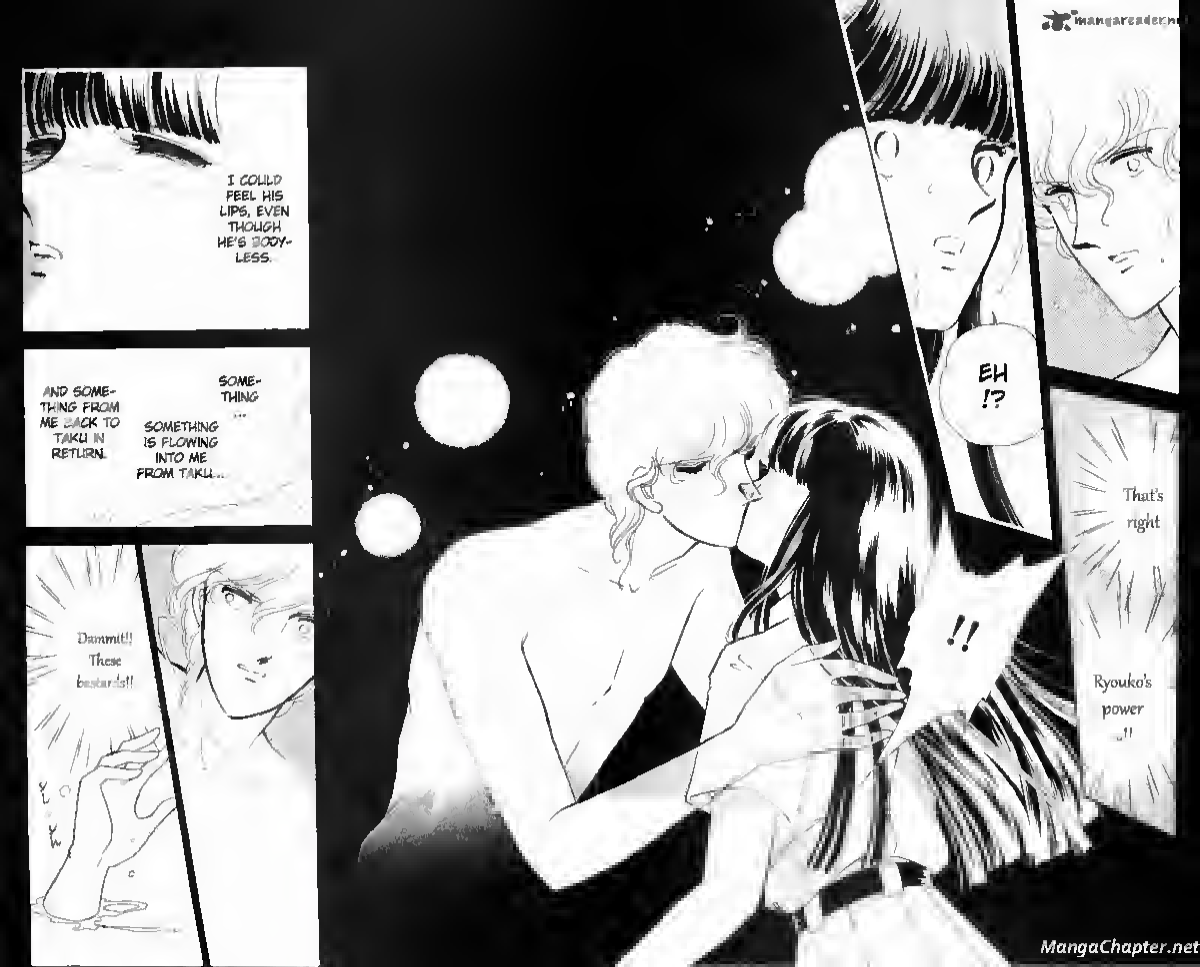

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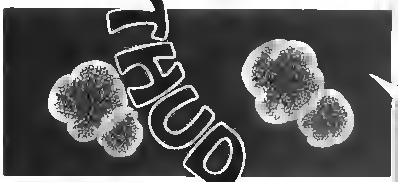

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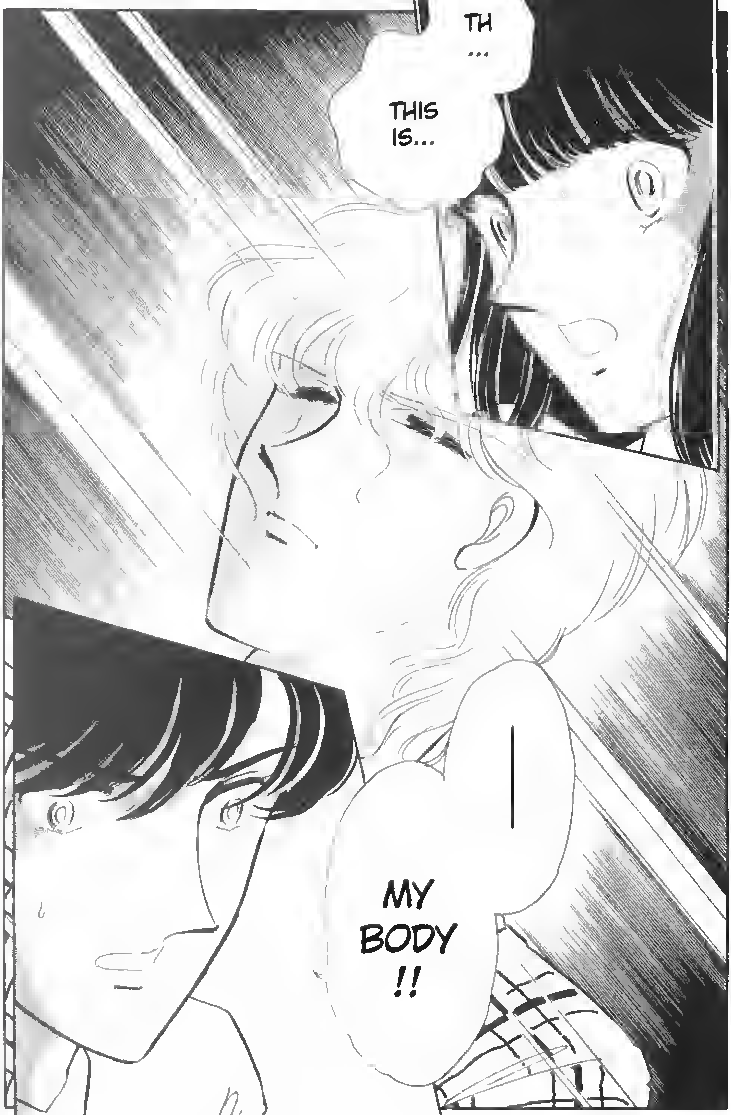

Chapter 11 End

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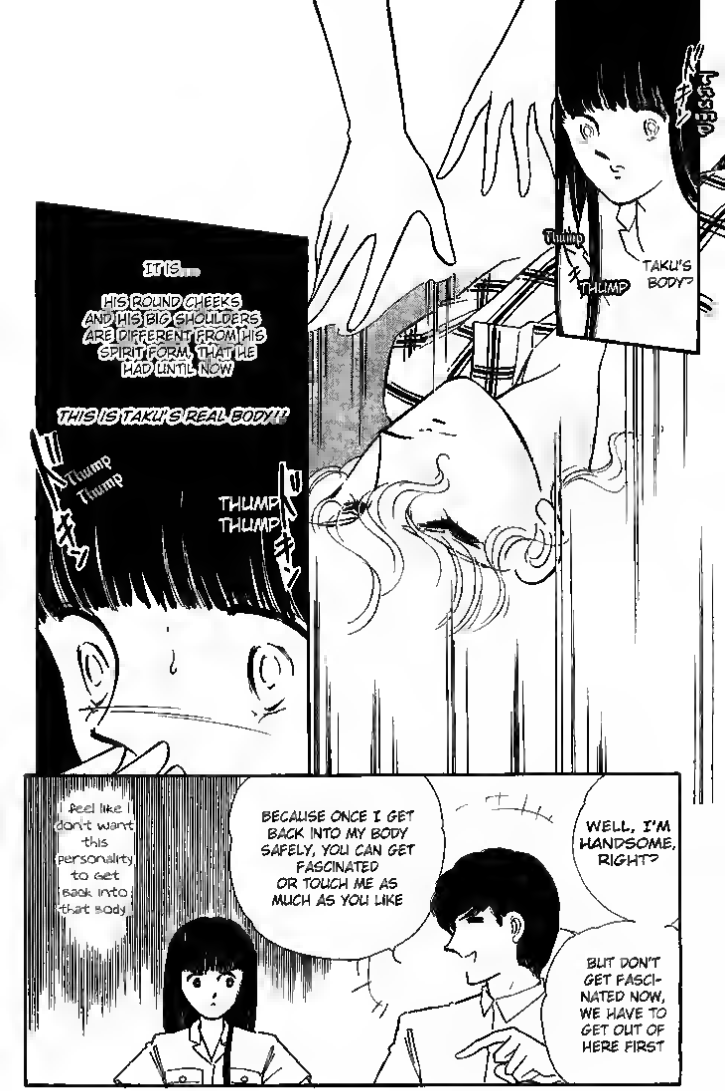
猫の還る日

—PART3—

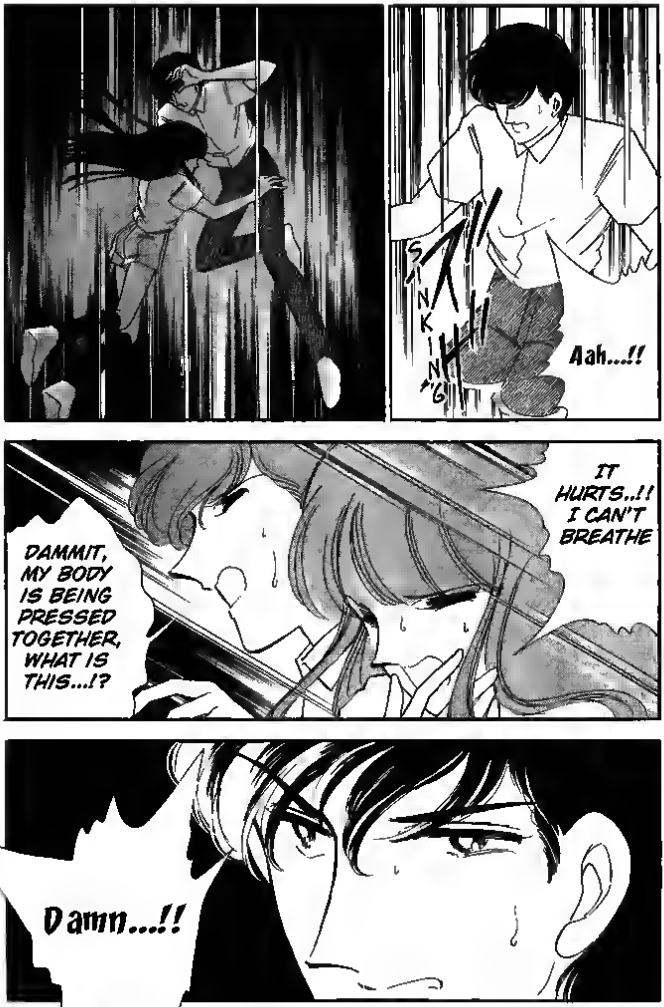
The day the cat came back

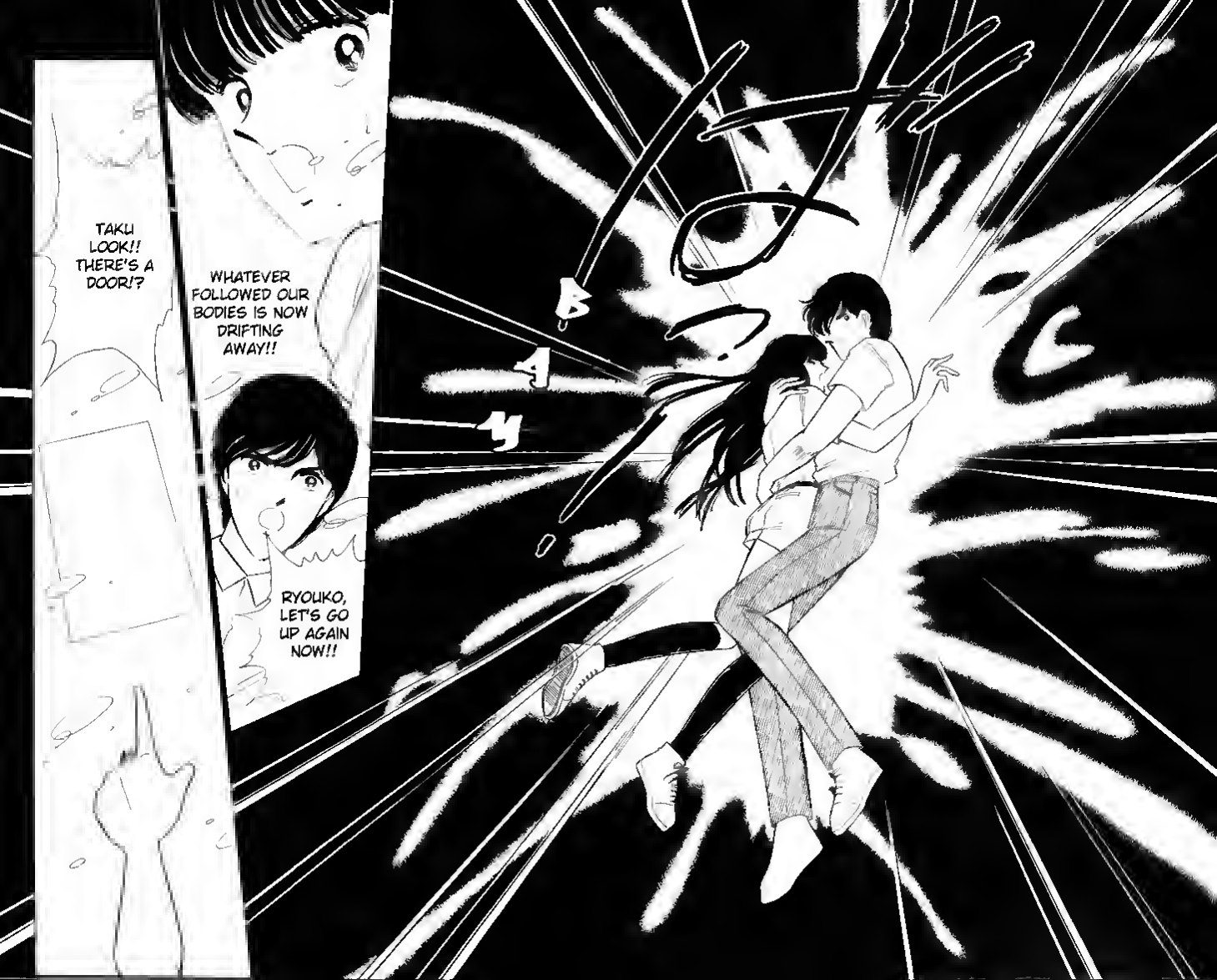
YOUR BODY!?
BUT YEAH WHAT'S THIS? IT'S NOT ICE AND IT DOESN'T SEEM TO BE GLASS EITHER
WHY IN THE WORLD WAS IT COVERED UP LIKE THAT!?
Knock

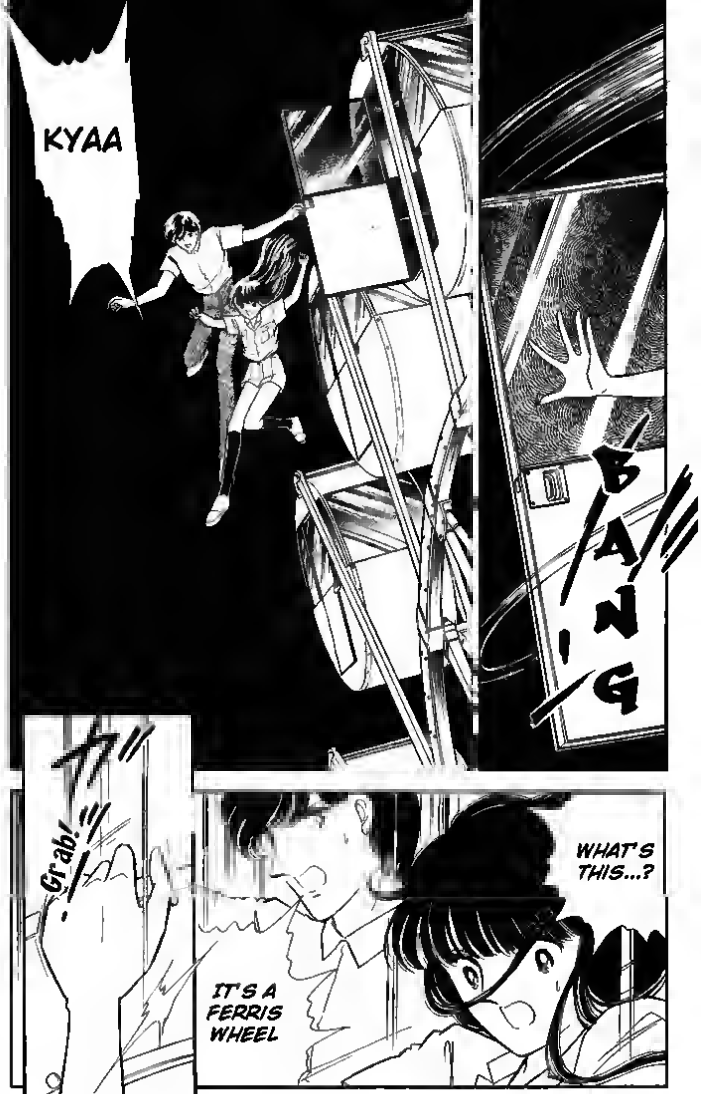

Thump
Thump
TAKU'S BODY?
IT IS....
HIS ROUND CHEEKS AND HIS BIG SHOULDERS ARE DIFFERENT FROM THIS SPIRIT FORM THAT HE HAD UNTIL NOW
THIS IS TAKU'S REAL BODY!!
Thump Thump
THUMP THUMP
I feel like I don't want this personality to get back into that body
BECAUSE ONCE I GET BACK INTO MY BODY SAFELY, YOU CAN GET FASCINATED OR TOUCH ME AS MUCH AS YOU LIKE
WELL, I'M HANDSOME, RIGHT?
BUT DON'T GET FASCINATED NOW, WE HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE FIRST

Friendship Scans

GLOW!
NERO!!
RYOUKO HOLD ONTO ME
MY BODY IS BEING SUCKED IN
SINKING
Go to sleep right next to Taku
HIHIHIHI
RYOUKO!!
SINKING
KYAA !!


SINKING
Aah...!!
IT HURTS..!! I CAN'T BREATHE
DAMMIT, MY BODY IS BEING PRESSED TOGETHER, WHAT IS THIS...!?
Damn...!!

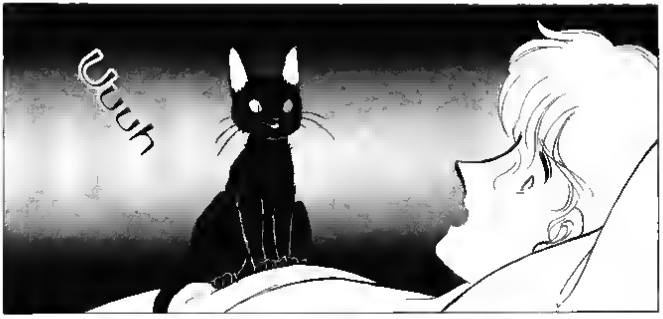

TAKU LOOK!! THERE'S A DOOR!?
WHATEVER FOLLOWED OUR BODIES IS NOW DRIFTING AWAY!!
RYOUKO, LET'S GO UP AGAIN NOW!!
BAKU


KYAA
BANG
Grab!
WHAT'S THIS...?
IT'S A FERRIS WHEEL

I DON'T KNOW, BUT I GUESS THAT THE PLACE BEFORE, IS SOMEHOW LINKED TO THIS PLACE
ANYWAY, LET'S GO DOWN
WH... WHY ARE WE HERE?
THERE SHOULD BE A FOOT-HOLD HERE SOME-WHERE -----
GO DOWN HUH~
EEK~
I REMEMBER NOW
Heeh
EH?

I REMEMBER THE TIME WHEN I GOT SEPARATED FROM MY BODY
At the summer's height two years ago
I'm sure I picked up a black kitten
meoooow
meoooow
meoooow
meoooow
meoooow
meoooow
uuuuh
But the night af the faurth day I woke up because I couldn t sleep well
The second and the third day I kept it nothing happened
I'll keep you until I find someone else who can take care of you.
WHAT'S WITH YOU? ARE YOU HOME-LESS?
meow

Friendship Scans


Uuuh

I was wide awake, but my body didn't obey me!!

!!
Slowly getting up

And just like this time I've been drawn to this amusement park
And sank into that place

I can't breath
It hurts!!
It hurts!!
Slowly
Eh!?

It was sa painful
That just before my body was locked away, my soul alone gat away
....POW
RYOUKO ..
I MEAN TAKU!
RIGHT, POW?
BU .. BUT WE FOUND YOUR BODY SO
WHEN YOUR SOUL GOES BACK INTO YOUR BODY, WE COULD EVEN ELIMINATE THAT STRONG SPIRIT

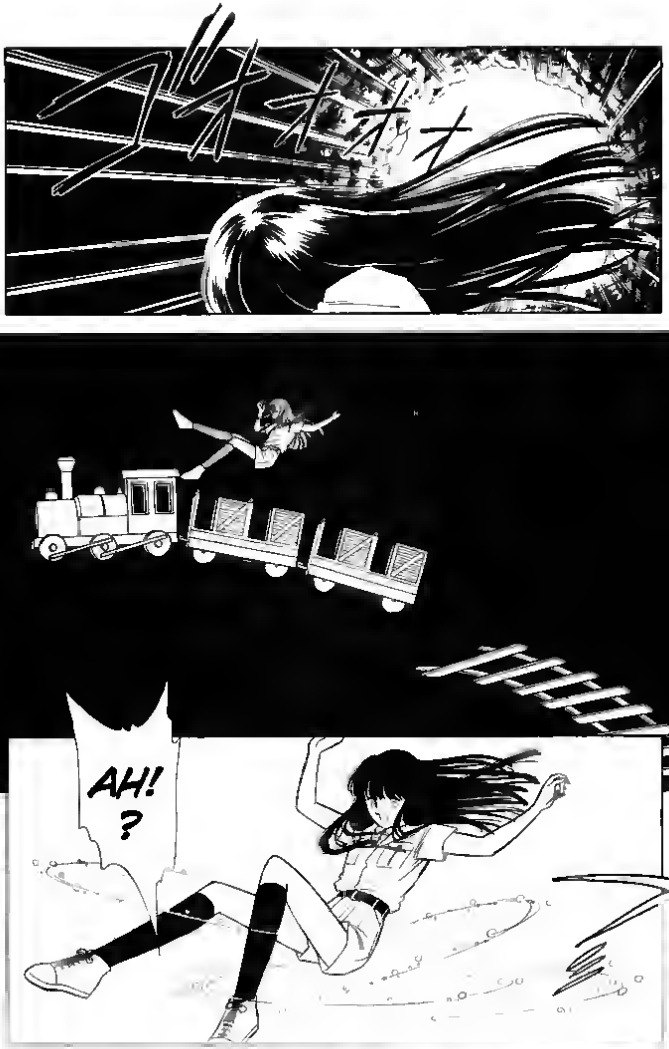
YEAH ..
THAT'S RIGHT RYOUKO

I won't let that happen!!

NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, LET'S NOT GET SEPARATED
SLOWLY
YEAH
BUT HOW COULD WE GET YOUR BODY OUT OF THERE?
AAH..!
Wrapping
Kyaa

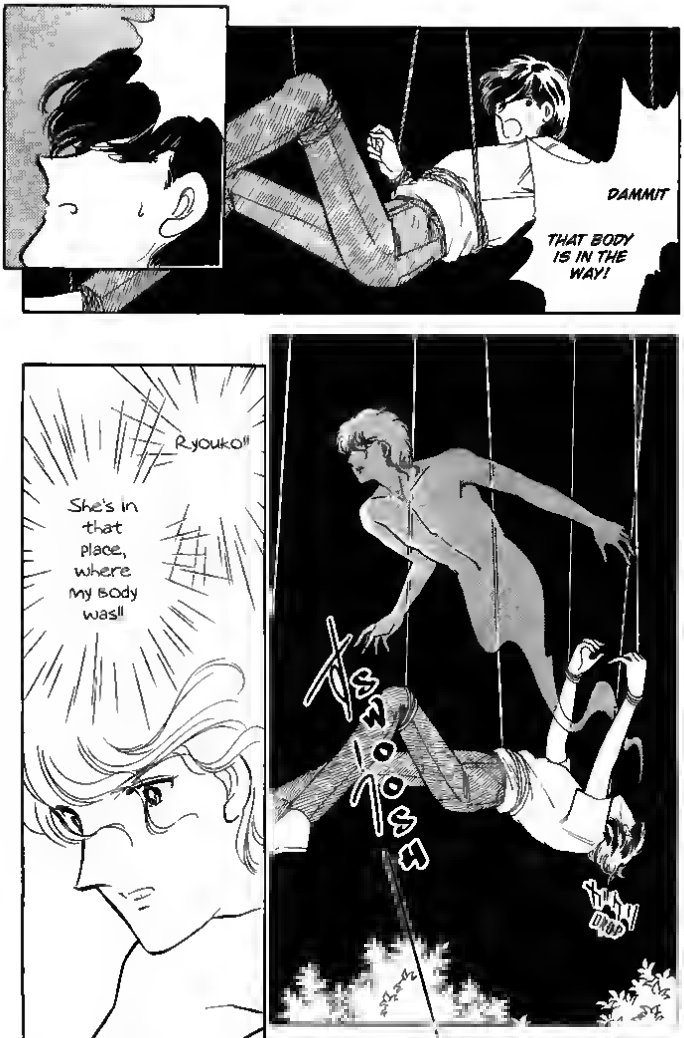
DAMMIT. ..!!
Grudge
I can easily get rid of them, when they are separated
MY BODY IS [illegible] AGAIN!?
Surprise
!!
UAA
SWOOSH
TAKU!

SFX: a kind of roaring sound of a mad ghost/spirit


AH!
?

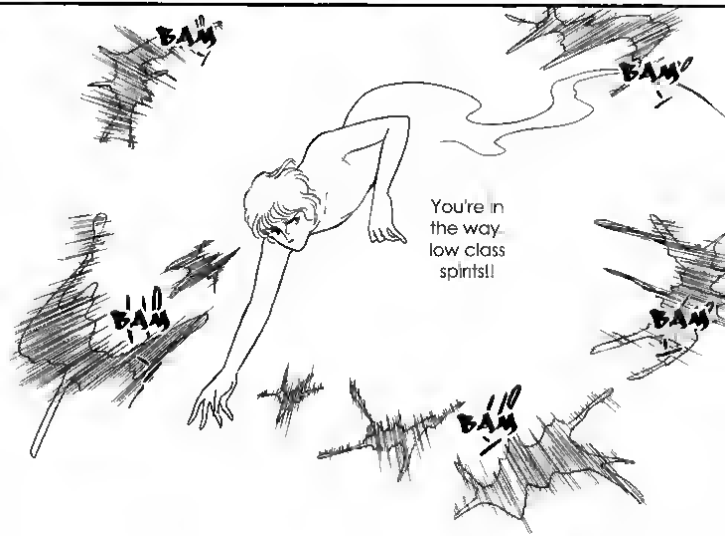
Friendship Scans

My body is sinking...!
Sinking
What is this!?
and now
Hihihihihi
Sleep next to Taku
NOOO
Sinking


DAMMIT
THAT BODY IS IN THE WAY!
Ryouko!!
She's in that place, where my body was!!
Drip
Drip

PIRATE ADVENTURE

Glow
Glow


BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
BAM
You're in the way low class spirits!!

Friendship Scans

I won't let you!!
AAH...!
Strike!!
Ryouko! Stretch out your hand

Friendship Scans

Shine!
ウォォォォ!!

CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
CRUMBLE
LOOK!! YOUR BODY...!!
THE FLOOR IS BREAKING!
GRR ----
GRR ----
GRAH

AAH
TAKU, RYOUKO
I'll let you go for now, but beware the next we meet
Kyaaa
Surprise
ZOOOSH

What a strong power!?
I'm going to get swallowed up by the energy of the moving spirit!!
Aaaaah!
My body is being torn apart!!
Gasp
HURRY UP AND GET BACK IN THERE, AT THIS RATE IT'S GOING TO BE DRAGGED AWAY TO SOMEWHERE ELSE
TAKU, YOUR BODY

If I let go of this hand
AH!!
HURRY UP, IF YOU DON'T CATCH IT NOW, IT'S GOING TO DISAPPEAR
Kyaaa
I'm going to get pulled away to somewhere
Pulled away

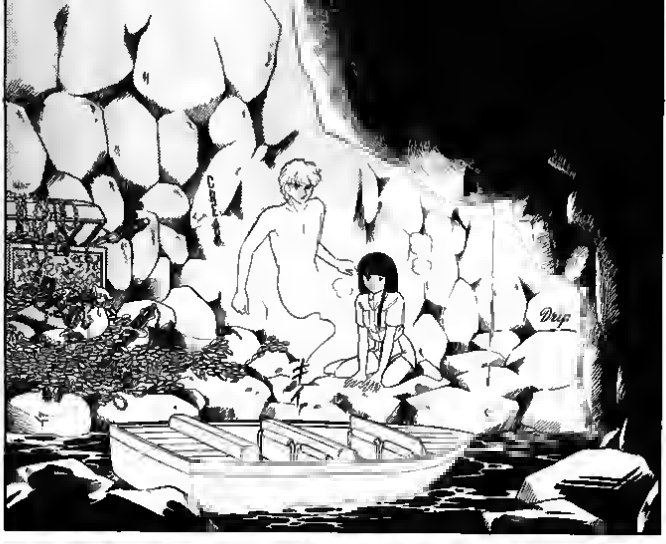
Friendship Scans

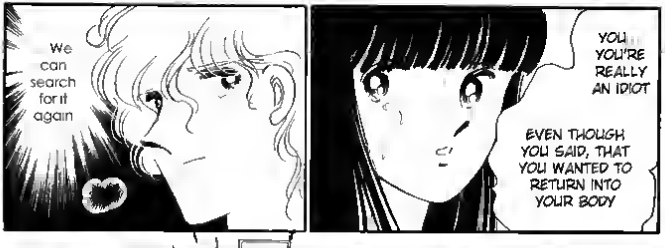
Friendship Scans

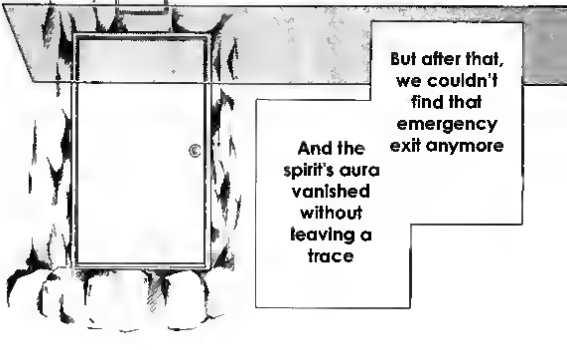
!!
GRAB!!

AH...! YOUR BODY...!
ゴオオオオ
TAKU...!

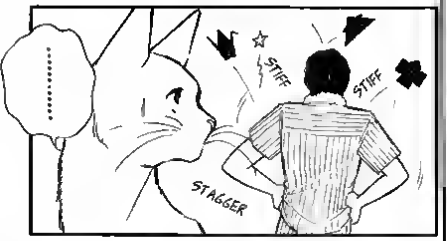
Drip


Drip


We can search for it again
YOU, YOU'RE REALLY AN IDIOT
EVEN THOUGH YOU SAID, THAT YOU WANTED TO RETURN INTO YOUR BODY


But after that, we couldn't find that emergency exit anymore
And the spirit's aura vanished without leaving a trace

OUCH
I WONDER WHAT HAPPENED. MY WHOLE BODY IS STIFF AND HURTS
MAYBE YOU JUST SLEPT IN A BAD POSITION, KAZUYA.


STIFF
STIFF
STAGGER
.....

What is it Ryouko, you seem to be even more depressed than I am

....I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING HELPFUL IN THE END
Hey! It's okay, we can restart from the beginning again
POW...
Sniff
MOM
WHAT IS IT YOU TWO, YOU DON'T LOOK HAPPY
BUT IT'S ALRIGHT NOW, I FOUND SOMETHING THAT WILL CHEER YOU UP

Friendship Scans

LOOK NERO CAME BACK HOME
I JUST FOUND HIM IN THAT CORNER
はっか
Meow
Kyaaa
Kyaaa
CALM DOWN, RYOUKO. THE SPIRIT ALREADY LEFT HIS BODY! IT'S ONLY A LITTLE CAT!!
〈猫の帰る日 PART3〉＊おわり＊ちゃお1995年1月号に掲載
The day the cat came back PART 3 /
The end

コクリ
コクリ

陵子の心霊事件簿3

ちゃおフラワーコミックス

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